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FILE NO.

59/320.

PART NO.

DISPOSAL CATEGORY.

RETAIN PERMANENTLY

DISPOSAL  
AUTHORITY

RD951

DISPOSAL  
CLASS

1.1

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT.

**SECRET**

TO BE PASSED BY HAND



SUBJECT. AUSTRALIA-EGYPT  
RESUMPTION OF  
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

Acct Repor. In UFR. 61/882  
UFR " " Acct 61/883

6849/57.

NAA: A1209, 1959/320





**FOR THE PRESS**

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

PR 14

11th February 1961

Not for publication or  
cabling before 7 p.m.  
Australian Eastern time,  
11th February, 1961.



**AUSTRALIA TO RAISE STATUS OF MISSION IN CAIRO**

Statement by the Minister  
for External Affairs

The Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Menzies, announced today that the Governments of Australia and the United Arab Republic had agreed that diplomatic relations should in future be conducted at Embassy level.

The Australian Legation in Cairo would be raised to the status of an Embassy on presentation of credentials by an Australian Ambassador.

The Government of the United Arab Republic proposed to establish an Embassy in Canberra.

.....

**FOOTNOTE.** The last paragraph is a statement of intention. It is not yet possible to say when the U.A.R. may establish an Embassy in Canberra. The Australian Legation in Cairo was re-established on January 20, 1960, under a Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. G.B. Peakes. The Australian Minister, Mr. J.P. Quinn, presented his credentials on December 21, 1960.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM



JH/JS

I. 3304

Dated: 9th February, 1961.  
2007  
Recd: 10th February, 1961.  
0830

FROM:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

28. UNCLASSIFIED.

Your telegrams 22 and 23.

Press release arrangements for February 11th  
confirmed.

Quinn.

-----  
RT. HON. R.G. MENZIES.  
SIR ARTHUR TANGE.  
MR. E.J. BUNTING.

10th February, 1961.



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JRC/JS

O. 1947

Sent: 9th February, 1961,  
1205

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.23. CONFIDENTIAL IMMEDIATE.

For Quinn.

Elevation of Missions: our telegram 22.

Minister has approved drafts for formal exchange and announcement. Our announcement will therefore be made here at 7 p.m. on Saturday, 11th February, unless we hear from you that United Arab Republic authorities have in the meantime requested a postponement owing to the time factor.

2. You may proceed to request agreement for your appointment as Ambassador.

RT. HON. R.G. MENZIES  
SIR ARTHUR LANGE (1602/13).  
MR. E.J. BUNTING.

(COST £7/13/0)

10th February, 1961.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAMS ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DLB:BMW

0.1938

Sent: 9th February, 1961.  
1010

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.



22. CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

Thanks your 26.

Drafts for formal exchange and announcements appear suitable, but it will be necessary to obtain approval of Minister who is not in Canberra.

2. While we hope to obtain directions on 9th February you may feel it desirable to warn Foreign Office that 11th February may not be suitable.

-----  
RT. HON. R.G. MENZIES  
SIR ARTHUR TINGE  
MR. M.J. BUNTING

(Cost £6.6.0)

9th February, 1961.



INWARD CABLEGRAM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LS.

I.2986.

Sent: 6th February, 1961.

1746.

Recd: 7th February, 1961.

0830.



FROM:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

26.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram 14 and my savingram 4, status.

Ismail today canvassed the next step. As to the draft announcement already informally communicated to the U.A.R., thought it too long. After discussion I agreed to put to you for consideration, draft of confidential formal exchanges along these lines, "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Australian Legation) accessories etc., and has the honour to confirm that the Government of U.A.R. (Australia) agrees that the status of diplomatic representation between the U.A.R. and Australia be raised to Embassy status.

The Government of U.A.R. (Australia) proposes to announce agreement in the following terms: "Governments of U.A.R. and Australia have agreed that diplomatic relations shall in the future be conducted at Embassy level. (Australian text only: the Australian Legation Cairo will be raised to the status of Embassy on presentation of credentials by an Australian Ambassador). The Government of the U.A.R. proposes to establish an Embassy in Canberra".

2. If this simplified formula is acceptable to us the U.A.R. would like to make announcement on 11th February at 11.a.m. (7.p.m. Canberra time same day.).

3. Ismail asked for our views by Wednesday if possible. I said once agreement on terms of exchange was reached we would request agreement for Ambassador. Ismail said request for agreement for U.A.R. Ambassador would follow shortly and might even be simultaneous.

Quinn.

ET. HON. R.G.MENZIES.  
SIR ARTHUR TANGE.  
MR.E.J.BUNTING.

7th February, 1961.

Copy to Secy.



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AH:

O.1335

Sent: 26th January, 1961.  
1820

TC:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.13. CONFIDENTIAL.

For Quinn.

Thanks for your 11 and memorandum 44/61.

2. Grateful for immediate advice of any changes of wording U.A.R. may suggest and of proposed timing of announcement to permit synchronisation here.

3. In accordance with our usual practice we would not propose to raise the status of the mission until you present your credentials as Ambassador.

4. Although the U.A.R. may assume that agreement for you as Ambassador is implied in past discussions, it would seem desirable to ask for a formal notification of agreement as soon as agreement is reached on announcement.

RT. HON. R.G. MENZIES  
MR. P.R. HEYDON  
MR. D.J. BUNTING

27th January, 1961.

SECRET



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

:JM

I. 1392

FROM:

Dated: 18th January, 1961  
1907  
Rec'd: 19th January, 1961  
0830

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

11. SECRET.

Status of mission, reference my telegram 151  
of 1960.

During courtesy call on the Under-Secretary of State (Hafiz Ismail) on 18th January, I was told he had just had news that the U.A.R. Government had decided that diplomatic relations with Australia should henceforth be at Embassy level. Reshuffle of U.A.R. representation was in progress and he was not able to tell me anything on plans for Canberra other than that a man with the rank of Ambassador was in mind.

2. After restating our general position on status, I expressed our gratification at the decision and enquired whether our form of words for the announcement was acceptable. Hafiz Ismail said the Ministry had not yet completed study of this, but he hoped to be in touch in a day or two. I said I would ask the Australian Government to withhold publicity for the present.

3. I also called on Fawzi yesterday. Conversation was general. He made courteous reference to meeting with Mr. Menzies in New York.

Quinn.

RT.HON.R.G. MENZIES.  
MR. P.R. HEYDON.  
MR. E.J. BUNTING.

19th January, 1961

SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

PH

I.30427

Dated: 20th December, 1960.  
1730  
Rec'd: 21st December, 1960.  
0921

FROM:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.



UN1656 CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

U.A.R. and Australia.

Reference Quinn's telegram No. 2.

Developments in the United Nations on Congo or Algeria do not offer much possibilities for fruitful representations to Nasser by an Australian representative. Unlike some of the other Africans here Fawzi has never taken a hostile attitude towards Hammarskjöld personally but otherwise U.A.R. policy has been directed towards strengthening of U.A.R. influence throughout Africa. On Algeria Quinn might make the point that Australian statements have not expressed support for France on the substance of its policy but took the view that de Gaulle was making a sincere attempt to solve the problem and should be given a chance.

Plinsoll.

MIN & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S

21st December, 1960.

*Copy K.11*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JERC:JT

I.30313

Dated: 19th December, 1960.

1942

Rec'd: 20th December, 1960.  
0830



FROM:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

172. CONFIDENTIAL.

Please pass following to New York 2.

Plimsoll from Quinn.

Informed today that Credentials as Minister will be accepted on 21st December.

2. This will provide the only opportunity I can expect during stay here to converse with the President. Grateful for brief cable Canberra any specific aspects of activity of the U.A.R. delegation in relation to the Congo or Algeria, which I should have in mind.

3. The Department has been asked for guidance on current questions.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S.

20th December, 1960.

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy K.H.



CONFIDENTIAL

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

C : 1A

1.23165

Dated: 25th November, 1960

1520

Recd.: 26th November, 1960

0830

FROM:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

151.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed London 26, Canberra 151.

Instead of half expected lecture from Zulficar Sabri, I received acceptable expression of welcome and an unexpected opportunity (almost one hour) to state our position. Trade was not raised.

2. Not clear whether he knew of Fauzi's statement in New York (I suspect not) but he did not entirely disguise scepticism about their authority.

3. Reference to Presidency suggested awareness of existing or potential blockade there on status question. My assessment is that we are most likely to be told (if we do receive an answer) that question of status will be dealt with when U.A.R. is preparing to send a mission to Canberra. Final decision on this has obviously been deferred.

4. No date yet mentioned for presentation but possibility of its being fitted in about the end of this month has been mentioned by Protocol. Heads of Missions are dealt with in threes and nothing is likely to be decided until Nasser leaves the Sudan 24th November.

5. Zulficar Sabri is "man of the regime" and potentially more significant point of contact than Fauzi or any member of the Foreign Ministry with the possible exception of Hafiz Ismail.

6. Canberra please pass New York as savingram 5.

RT. HON. R.G. MENZIES.  
SIR ARTHUR TANCE  
MR E.J. PUNTING

26th November, 1960



CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

:JM

I. 27851

FROM:

Dated: 22nd November, 1960

1555

Rec'd: 23rd November, 1960

0830

Australian Embassy,  
CAIRO.150. CONFIDENTIAL.

London 25.

I was received by Acting Minister 21st November for the purpose of delivering copy of Letters of Credence.

2. Atmosphere was friendly and Hussain Zulficar Sabri raised no contentious questions. I told him that Legation had received instructions formally to record our understanding of the attitude taken in common by Australian and Sudanese Governments on the question of elevation of the Mission from Legation to Embassy. After recalling past discussions in Cairo, I said we took Fawzi's comment in New York as indicating informal agreement and handed over piece of paper containing draft formula for the press setting out paragraph 2 of your telegram 136.

3. Sulficar Sabri replied that the Government had decided in principle to establish U.A.R. Mission at Canberra but that funds would not be available before the next financial year (July next). He saw no difficulty about, for example, status but thought U.A.R. Government might prefer to defer this until establishment of Mission in Canberra could be announced. After all, it would only be a few more months. I said Australia would welcome the establishment of U.A.R. Mission but we, for our part, did not make elevation conditional on such a Mission being established. (I thought it advisable also to mention that if Embassy status were agreed in the near future no change in appointment here should be expected.)

4. Zulficar Sabri said he would need to speak to Fawzi on his return from the Sudan about what he may have 'promised' in New York and that the matter would need to be considered by the President. Comment follows.

5. Canberra please pass New York Savingram 4.

RT. HON. R. G. MENZIES.  
SIR ARTHUR TANGE.  
MR. E. J. BUNTING.

23rd November, 1960

CONFIDENTIAL



INWARD CABLEGRAM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I. 26743.

Dated: 9th November, 1960.  
1525.  
Rec'd: 10th November, 1960.  
0830.

HC:MP

FROM:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

147. CONFIDENTIAL

Tange from Quinn.

Your telegram 136.

Request discretion to delay formal approach until we have gauged the present atmosphere from further contacts with Foreign Ministry consequent on my arrival. Feakes and I retain doubts whether Fawzi's remarks accurately reflect the attitude here.

2. Feakes last week mentioned these to the Chief of Protocol. The latter disclaimed knowledge and suggested that Ambassadors would have to be exchanged with the United Kingdom before we could have Embassies. Press reported, 8th November, that U.A.R. Minister would be appointed to Australia.

3. Progress in United Kingdom - U.A.R. negotiations (announcement on Ambassadors expected about 12th December) may have inclined the U.A.R. not to let negotiations with us outpace those with the United Kingdom. Savingram follows.

RT. HON. R. G. MENZIES  
SIR ARTHUR TANGE  
MR. E. J. BUNTING

10th November, 1960.





CW Bunting

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

:SRT

O 17011

Sent: 3rd November, 1960.  
1735

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

136.

CONFIDENTIAL.

For Feakes from Tange.

Raising of Legation to Embassy. Reference your telegram 138 and telegram 1184 from Plimsoll (repeated to you as Savingram 11).

2. We interpret Fawzi's remarks as an informal agreement by the United Arab Republic to the elevation of the Legation to Embassy level. Minister has authorised you to present a note to Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the following terms:-

Begins.

The Legation ..... has the honour to advise that, following a conversation in New York between the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Republic and the Australian Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs and a subsequent conversation between Dr. Fawzi and the Australian Ambassador to the United Nations, it is the understanding of the Australian Government that informal agreement has been reached that the Australian Legation in Cairo should be raised to Embassy status.

If this is equally the understanding of the Government of the United Arab Republic, I have the honour to propose that a joint announcement be made by the two Governments on a date to be agreed. Such a statement might be along the following lines:-

"The Governments of the United Arab Republic and Australia with a view to the maintenance and further development of the good relations now subsisting between them and with a view to promoting an increase of trade between the two countries, have agreed that their diplomatic relations shall in future be conducted at the Embassy level.

The Australian Legation in Cairo will be raised to the status of Embassy on the presentation of credentials by an Australian Ambassador. The Government of the United Arab Republic proposes to establish in due course an Embassy in Canberra".

Ends.

3. You will appreciate that the terms of the note and press release have been so drafted as to avoid the question of which party took the initiative in proposing elevation of status. If any

**CONFIDENTIAL**

....2....



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

-2-

0.17011

explanation on this point is required, you could say that we consider that this question need not figure in the joint announcement. We consider that the raising of status will have advantages for both sides and that the joint announcement should simply indicate the agreement of the two Governments to this step.

4. If the Foreign Ministry confirms in writing the Agreement, including the terms of the press release, you should proceed to seek agreement for Quinn and a date for the announcement on elevation to precede or coincide with Quinn's arrival in Cairo.

5. Please keep us informed of developments by telegram including initial reaction of the Foreign Office when you present this note.

RT. HON. R.G. MENZIES  
SIR ARTHUR TANGE  
MR. E.J. BUNTING x

-----  
(Cost - £43/7/-)

4th November, 1960.

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I. 25062.

Dated: 21st October, 1960.  
1446.

Rec'd: 22nd October, 1960.  
0830.

RE:MP

FROM:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.



138. CONFIDENTIAL

U.A.R. Mission in Australia.

Chief of Protocol told me yesterday "for my own information" that the U.A.R. would shortly seek agreement for Head of Mission. He did not mention whether for Minister or Ambassador.

2. When I called on the new Permanent Under-Secretary in the Foreign Ministry, 19th October, he said that Mission would be established in Australia shortly and that there was every advantage in raising the status before the arrival of the U.A.R. Head of Mission. He did not, however, seem well briefed on the status question.

---

RT. HON. R. G. MENZIES  
SIR ARTHUR TANGE  
MR. E. J. BUNTING

22nd October, 1960.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM



I. 23548.

Dated: 5th October, 1960.

Rec'd: 6th October, 1960.  
0830.

:MP

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

4421. UNCLASSIFIED.

For local purposes can you advise Quinn's expected  
date of arrival in Cairo, please?

---

E.A.  
P.M's

6th October, 1960.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM**

:SRT

O.15421

Sent: 4th October, 1960.  
1800

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON. (for External)

3084.

CONFIDENTIAL.



Letters of Credence:-

Your memorandum 132 of 14th February, 1956.

In preparing Letters of Credence (for Australian Heads of Mission) for Her Majesty's signature we have always used her complete Australian Style and Title. However, we have noted that in accrediting Heads of Mission to Australia some Roman Catholic and non-Christian countries omit from her Majesty's Style and Title the phrases "by the Grace of God" and "Defender of the Faith". We decided to accept such Letters and they were subsequently accepted by the Palace.

2. We have noticed that the religious phrases are omitted in the pro forma of the Letters for Italy and Japan forwarded under cover of your memorandum. It has occurred to us that Nasser might possibly object to these phrases, and that if possible it would be preferable to omit them from Quinn's credentials. Grateful if you would ask Foreign Office if it is their usual practice to omit religious phrases in credentials for Catholic and non-Christian countries and whether they can throw any light on Nasser's likely attitude to their inclusion.

-----

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

(Cost - £6/11/-)

5th October, 1960.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

copy sent



CONFIDENTIAL

SRT

I.23.82

Dated: 4th October, 1960.  
1515

FROM:

Rec'd: 5th October, 1960.  
0830

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

4397.

CONFIDENTIAL.

From External.

Your 3084 - Letters of Credence.

Foreign Office is puzzled by our enquiry, and feel that pro forma letters given us by the C.R.O. in 1956 must have been incorrect. In no instance that they know of, and they checked in particular the last sets of letters for both Italy and Japan, has there been any modification of the full style and Title. Even in the case of the Vatican Defender of the Faith is included. Foreign Office cannot see how any modification, which they would regard as improper, could be made.

2. The only modification which has been made in the Text of the Letters (not to the Style and Title) has been in the case of some Communist countries where the Commendation to the Almighty has been left out.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

5th October, 1960.



C. J. M.



CONFIDENTIAL

:SRT

O.15421

Sent: 4th October, 1960.  
1800

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON. (for External)



3084.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Letters of Credence:-

Your memorandum 132 of 14th February, 1956.

In preparing Letters of Credence (for Australian Heads of Mission) for Her Majesty's signature we have always used her complete Australian Style and Title. However, we have noted that in accrediting Heads of Mission to Australia some Roman Catholic and non-Christian countries omit from her Majesty's Style and Title the phrases "by the Grace of God" and "Defender of the Faith". We decided to accept such Letters and they were subsequently accepted by the Palace.

2. We have noticed that the religious phrases are omitted in the pro forma of the Letters for Italy and Japan forwarded under cover of your memorandum. It has occurred to us that Nasser might possibly object to these phrases, and that if possible it would be preferable to omit them from Quinn's credentials. Grateful if you would ask Foreign Office if it is their usual practice to omit religious phrases in credentials for Catholic and non-Christian countries and whether they can throw any light on Nasser's likely attitude to their inclusion.

-----

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

(Cost - £6/11/-)

5th October, 1960.



CONFIDENTIAL

## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

AH:

O.14739

Sent: 21st September, 1960.  
1100

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.123. CONFIDENTIAL.

Credentials of Mr. Quinn will begin with customary recital of the Queen's style and title which includes following phrases "Elizabeth II by the Grace of God" and "Defender of the Faith".

2. We assume these phrases were included in Canadian Ambassador's Credentials and would be glad to know if they were accepted without comment.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S(Cost £8.2.0)  
21st September, 1960.





771

FOR THE PRESS

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

PR 86

6th September, 1956

RELEASED ONLY  
IN CANBERRAAUSTRALIAN MINISTER TO THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLICStatement by the Minister for External Affairs.

The Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Menzies, announced today that Mr. J.P. Quinn, O.B.E. had been appointed Australian Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United Arab Republic.

Mr. Menzies recalled that in October, 1959, agreement had been reached between Australia and the United Arab Republic to resume diplomatic relations, and that in January of this year the Australian Legation in Cairo had been re-opened under a Charge d'Affaires.

Mr. Quinn, who was expected to proceed to Cairo next month, had previously served in Singapore, the Hague, London, Pretoria and Saigon. He was at present an Assistant Secretary in the Department of External Affairs in Canberra.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

JTR

I.15023

Sent: 30th June, 1960.

1314  
Rec'd: 1st July, 1960.  
0830

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

92 UNCLASSIFIED

"Al Ahram" reported yesterday morning that I have submitted two memorandums to Ghalib expressing the Australian Government's wish for Embassy level and for closer economic relations. Ghalib was reported to have welcomed this and to have promised to consider opening Embassy at Canberra.



MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M's.

1st July, 1960.





59/320

March 4, 1960

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Prime Minister,

I am most grateful for the generous references, in your letter of January 20, to the way in which Canada has discharged its responsibilities for Australian interests in Egypt and the United Arab Republic over the last few years.

It was a privilege and an honour for the Canadian Government to be able to extend assistance to your Government in this way. The patience and understanding shown at all times by the Australian authorities made our task an easy and rewarding one. I am glad to note that the Australian Government's policy in this respect appears to have received due appreciation in Cairo, if one may judge from the welcome given in the United Arab Republic by Government authorities and by the public to the resumption of diplomatic relations with your country.

I shall be glad to communicate to Mr. Arnold Smith and his staff, as well as to the officers concerned in the Department of External Affairs, your satisfaction with the role they played. I wish in turn to convey to you my warm appreciation for the effective cooperation of Sir Walter Cawthorn and his staff.

I should like to endorse your remarks concerning the traditions of mutual help which apply between members of the Commonwealth and the particularly intimate and friendly relations which exist between Australia and Canada. I look forward to the occasions

The Right Honourable R. G. Menzies, C.H., Q.C., M.P.,  
Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs,  
Canberra, Australia.

*m. J. Griffiths*  
*Copy to E. A.* **30 MAR 1960**  
*Please*

COPY - E.A. (inf.)

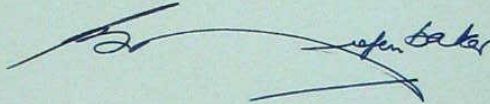


- 2 -

which the meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers will provide for both formal and informal conversations with you.

With kind personal regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Robert Menzies', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM



17H

I. 5382

FROM:

Dated: 11th March, 1960  
1635  
Rec'd: 12th March, 1960  
0955  
(Via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

141 CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN INTERESTS IN U.A.R.

Many thanks for your 104.

Quite fortuitously, and not at our instigation, we heard of the Prime Minister's letter of 20th January after despatch of our telegram no.135. Although the letter was dated 20th January, it had apparently just been received in Ottawa (channel unknown).

2. Diefenbaker signed reply yesterday. We were asked not to pass on our knowledge of the exchange, but in view of the fact that Diefenbaker's reply might appear delayed and co-incidence of timing of his reply and our 135 we thought you should have background. Please protect.

3. In short, there is no connection between our enquiry to you and timing of Canadian Prime Minister's reply.

MIN. & DEPT EA(214/10/6/1)  
P.M.'s.

12th March, 1960

*Maclean?*



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

RESTRICTED

0.4262

Sent: 11th March, 1960.  
1101

MP:BMW

TO:

(via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

104. RESTRICTED.

Australian Interests in U.A.R. Your 135.

Prime Minister wrote to Mr. Diefenbaker on 20th January, 1960. You will have message from Acting Minister, Sir Garfield Barwick, to Mr. Green dated 27th October 1959 (our telegram 392).

2. Memorandum follows.

-----  
MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/6/1)  
P.M.'s

11th March, 1960.





DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

RESTRICTED.



MP:BMV

I. 5077

Sent: 8th March, 1960.  
1645  
Rec'd: 9th March, 1960.  
1216

FROM:

(via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

135. RESTRICTED.

Australian Interests in U.A.R.

Thank you for your 95. Have passed copy to Robertson with suggestion that Green might be interested to see passages in which Canadian assistance has been publicly recognised.

2. We think that Canadians will appreciate this recognition.

3. Your 481 advised that you were then "drafting message of appreciation to Canadian Government for their care of Australian interests". We do not seem to have had further information. We should like to have full picture (see also our 464 to Acting Minister) of what has been done to thank Canadians for their efforts and would appreciate your further advice. If message was sent following on your 481 could we have text please?

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

9th March, 1960.

✓





198A

**FOR THE PRESS**RELEASED ONLY IN CANBERRA.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

PR 27

8th March, 1960.

AUSTRALIAN LEGATION IN CAIRO RE-OPENED.Statement by the Minister for External Affairs.

The Minister for External Affairs, Mr Menzies, announced to ay that the Australian Government had appointed an officer of the Department of External Affairs, Mr G. B. Feakes, as Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Australian Legation in Cairo.

Mr Feakes had now taken up his appointment, which was pursuant to the announcement of October 19, 1959, that the Governments of Australia and the United Arab Republic had agreed to the re-establishment of diplomatic relations and the re-opening of the Australian Legation in Cairo.

Mr Menzies said that now the Australian Legation had been re-opened, the Canadian Embassy had handed over to it the care of Australian interests in the United Arab Republic. The Canadian Government had discharged this responsibility for Australia since November, 1956.

Mr Menzies added that the Australian Government was greatly indebted to Canada for the effective way in which her representatives had looked after Australian interests in the United Arab Republic.

---



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

JM/JS

O. 4033

Sent: 8th March, 1960.  
1539

\* (Via Leased Channel)

TO:

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.....309 \* (Please pass)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....95 \*

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK.....87 \*

External Affairs Office,  
LONDON.....SAV. LA.33



UNCLASSIFIED.

Following statement has been issued by Minister today.

Begins.

The Minister for External Affairs, Mr Menzies, announced today that the Australian Government had appointed an officer of the Department of External Affairs, Mr G.B. Peakes, as Charge d' Affaires ad interim of the Australian Legation in Cairo.

Mr. Peakes had now taken up his appointment, which was pursuant to the announcement of October 19th, 1959, that the Governments of Australia and the United Arab Republic had agreed to the re-establishment of diplomatic relations and the re-opening of the Australian Legation in Cairo.

Mr. Menzies said that now the Australian Legation had been re-opened, the Canadian Embassy had handed over to it the care of Australian interests in the United Arab Republic. The Canadian Government had discharged this responsibility for Australia since November, 1956.

Mr. Menzies added that the Australian Government was greatly indebted to Canada for the effective way in which her representatives had looked after Australian interests in the United Arab Republic.

Ends.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/5/1)  
P.M.'s.

9th March, 1960.



## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

CW

PRESS:

Sent: 8th March, 1960.  
1425

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.31. UNCLASSIFIED.Following press release being issued Canberra  
1.00 p.m. 8th March:-

The Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Menzies, announced today that the Australian Government had appointed an officer of the Department of External Affairs, Mr. G.B. Foakes, as Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Australian Legation in Cairo.

Mr. Foakes had now taken up his appointment, which was pursuant to the announcement of October 19th, 1959, that the Governments of Australia and the United Arab Republic had agreed to the re-establishment of diplomatic relations and the re-opening of the Australian Legation in Cairo.

Mr. Menzies said that now the Australian Legation had been re-opened, the Canadian Embassy had handed over to it the care of Australian interests in the United Arab Republic. The Canadian Government had discharged this responsibility for Australia since November, 1956.

Mr. Menzies added that the Australian Government was greatly indebted to Canada for the effective way in which her representatives had looked after Australian interests in the United Arab Republic.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (568/3/3)  
P.M'S

Cost £8/16/0

9th March, 1960.





DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM <sup>T I A L</sup>

JIRC:JT

0.3987

Sent: 7th March, 1960.  
1740



TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

30. CONFIDENTIAL.

For Feakes.

Minister will issue at noon 8th March brief factual statement concerning your appointment as Charge d'Affaires ad interim and expressing Australian Government's appreciation of the effective way in which Canadian representatives have looked after Australian interests in the United Arab Republic.

2.

Text will be despatched en clair tomorrow.

-----  
(Cost £1/14/2)

8th March, 1960.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S.



**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

CONFIDENTIAL

:FPG

I.2615

Dated: 8th February, 1960  
1745

Rec'd: 9th February, 1960  
1147  
(Via leased channel)



FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

79 CONFIDENTIAL.

Our telegram 57 of 28th January.

Australian Legation in U.A.R.

We have copy of telegram from Canadian Ambassador at Cairo (full text by bag) reporting conversation he had with Fawzi at Australia Day reception.

2. Main points were:-

(a) Fawzi "intends to fight hard" to maintain item in estimates for coming year to open U.A.R. Mission Canberra, because he considers that, apart from Mission's usefulness in trade matters, U.A.R. should have political contacts with countries such as Australia, with whom U.A.R. has not tended to "see eye to eye" as a contribution to international understanding,

(b) There are indications that U.A.R. Foreign Ministry is going out of its way to establish friendly rather than formally correct relations with Australia, for example Feakes' formal accreditation within 24 hours of his arrival and Fawzi's attendance at Australia Day reception before Feakes had time to complete his calls.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

9th February, 1960.

P.M.'S.



## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

DLB.MMc

CONFIDENTIAL  
=====

0.2194

Sent: 8th February 1960  
1530

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.17. CONFIDENTIAL.

For Feakes.

Our 12 - Trade Prospects.

Following guidance may assist you with press and in discussion with U.A.R. authorities.

2. Intention of Australian Government to locate a Trade representative in Cairo later in year is an indication of its expectation that prospects are favourable for developing good trade relations between U.A.R. and Australia.

3. In past Australia has exported to the countries now comprising U.A.R. a wide range of foodstuffs particularly wheat, meat, dairy produce and canned goods. In addition there was an appreciable trade in wool and tallow.

4. Rapid development of Australian economy in recent years particularly in manufacturing industry should ensure availability for export of wide variety of new goods in addition to above traditional trade items.

5. Australia's prosperity should enhance prospects for sale of U.A.R. goods including raw cotton which has been the principal item of trade in past. Goods of U.A.R. origin are subject to most favoured nation treatment on entry into Australia. There are virtually no import restrictions.

6. The way is thus clear for energetic traders successfully to cultivate the Australian market.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (14/10/6/1-214/10/2)  
MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C=S=M)  
P.M.'s.

(COST £12.3.4)

9th February, 1960.





DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD CABLEGRAM** 208

/ENM

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

Sent: 2nd February, 1960.

1457

Rec'd: 3rd February, 1960.  
0830

465 UNCLASSIFIED.

Addressed Canberra repeated Savingram Rio

Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon left London today by  
Qantas for Cairo.



MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

3rd February, 1960.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM**

JT:JT

0.1822

Sent: 2nd February, 1960.  
1232  
(via leased channel)

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....43 (please pass Cairo)

Canadian Embassy,  
CAIRO.....12 (for Feakes)

12. CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

Your unnumbered telegram of 27th January: Australian Interests.

Following points may assist you with press and in discussion with U.A.R. authorities.

Trade.

2. Line you have taken about trade satisfactory. Present intention is to send Commercial Counsellor in second half of 1960. You may indicate this to U.A.R. authorities informally if suitable occasion arises. Separate message follows regarding trade prospects.

Technical Co-operation

3. We have no intention of extending economic assistance to U.A.R. We should be pleased to accept any U.A.R. students, whether Government-sponsored or private, on the same basis as students from any other country and to the extent that our educational institutions can accommodate them. (For your own information we could at present accommodate a reasonable flow of U.A.R. students). We should be pleased to assist U.A.R. Government in placing of any students sponsored and paid for by it and you may indicate this informally to U.A.R. authorities. But financial assistance is unlikely in view of our commitments under Colombo Plan (geographic scope of which you should explain).

4. Despite breach in diplomatic relations we have accepted six U.A.R. students over past six years under U.N.T.A. awards and have also sent experts to U.A.R. under United Nations auspices.

Status of Mission

5. In July, 1959, we told Canadian High Commissioner our intention was to restore "representation at Legation level in first instance leaving open for the time being question whether or not we should seek to raise it to Embassy status" later. This is still our position. If U.A.R. authorities or press enquire you should say you have no knowledge of any proposal at present to raise status to Embassy.

6. Ottawa has reported recent conversation between

.../2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-2-

0.1822

Loutfi and Nicholson about status of mission. We should of course be interested to know if U.A.R. authorities again raise this question with you, and if they do your impression of importance they seem to attach to it.

7. If U.A.R. authorities raise the subject you may also say that you believe Australian Government would be glad to receive U.A.R. mission in Australia. You could add that Government wishes new missions to establish themselves in Canberra rather than Sydney.

-----  
MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/6/1)  
TRADE (C.S.M.)  
P.M'S.

2nd February, 1960.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

:FPG

I.1932

Dated: 28th January, 1960  
1620

Rec'd: 29th January, 1960  
1043  
(Via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.



57 CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN - U.A.R. RELATIONS

1. Canadian Ambassador, Cairo, has reported and commented upon conversation between Nicholson and Loufi, Head of West European Dept., U.A.R. Foreign Ministry, about status of Australian Mission at Cairo (full texts of memorandum and record of conversation by tag).
2. Loufi asked Nicholson specifically if we intended to have "only a Legation" and volunteered that he thought money for a U.A.R. Embassy in Canberra would probably be included in next budget. He also said it was possible that he would be first Ambassador.
3. In subsequent conversation, Chef de Protocole raised same question with Canadian Ambassador, who replied that restoration of relation at status quo ante would not, he thought, preclude subsequent mutual decision to raise Missions to Embassy level with change to take effect on arrival of Australian Titular Head of Mission at Cairo or of U.A.R. Titular Head in Australia, whichever were first.
4. Smith, in reporting above, pointed out that:
  - (a) There is considerable local advantage in accrediting an Ambassador rather than a Minister, including direct access to Head of State, which is difficult for Ministers as opposed to Ambassadors to achieve plus tendency for Ministers and officials not only to be impressed by greater prestige they see in rank of Ambassador but to assume that his own Government attaches more weight to him than if he were Minister.
  - (b) No extra cost need be involved in the use of the higher title.
  - (c) The change could take place quietly at the time of appointment of the first titular Head of Mission, whereas a change in rank after his arrival might call attention to the decision

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

29th January, 1960.

C O N F I D E N T I A L



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM** **CONFIDENTIAL**

FG:LS.

I.1732

Sent: 27th January, 1960  
1645.  
Recd: 28th January, 1960  
0830.

FROM:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.



U/N. CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

Please pass London for Canberra.

Australian Interests.

Press has reported reopening of Legation with friendly, though not significant comment. In my personal contacts there has been general cordiality. I was interviewed briefly by Press and T.V. on arrival and, in addition, we provided information for commentary to T.V. film referred to in my telegram.

2. So far little more than general expressions of goodwill and references to my preoccupation with business of establishing legation have sufficed for press (and for U.A.R. authorities) but for future enquiries I would appreciate by telegram your guidance on attitude I should adopt to press and U.A.R. authorities on,

(A) Trade prospects and appointment of trade representatives. So far, I have seen that naturally, we hope for increase in trade and that no doubt trade representatives will be appointed in the coming months.

(B) Possibility of technical and economic co-operation (including reception of U.A.R. students). Among others, Fawzi, when I presented letter, raised this in general terms and without appearing to expect an answer. (I have reported conversation with Fawzi by letter). I have parried questions from others on this subject.

(C) Elevation of Legation to Embassy.

3. I have appointment for courtesy call on permanent Head of Foreign Ministry on Wednesday 27th January.

Peakes.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M's.

28th January, 1960.



COPY

Prime Minister,  
Canberra.

20th January, 1960.

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Prime Minister,

Now that we are re-establishing the Australian Legation in Cairo, the moment seems appropriate for me to express to you the gratitude we feel for the generous and effective way in which Canada has discharged Australian interests in Egypt and later the United Arab Republic, since the end of 1956.

Canada's assumption at that time of the somewhat thankless role of protecting power for Australia was very much appreciated here; I think it was a notable illustration of the way in which members of the Commonwealth are ready to step in to help each other in difficulty, as well as being a reflection of the particularly close connection between Canada and Australia.

Subsequently, we have had every reason to be grateful for Canadian activities on our behalf in handling various concrete matters, culminating in the negotiations which led to the resumption of our diplomatic relations with the United Arab Republic.

In respect of this last matter, our special thanks are due to your Government, to the Canadian Embassy in Cairo, and in particular to your able Ambassador, Mr. Arnold Smith. I am sure that Mr. Smith's sensitive judgment and his standing in Cairo played a most important part in enabling the resumption of diplomatic relations to be brought about.

If you should think it a proper step to take, I should appreciate it if Mr. Arnold Smith and the staff of the Canadian Embassy in Cairo and those members of the Canadian Department of External Affairs in Ottawa who may have been concerned, could be made aware of this Government's appreciation of their efforts.

I shall always look back on the period of your protection of our interests in Cairo as an example of disinterested helpfulness in the best tradition of the Commonwealth. I hope that Australia may have an opportunity, in happier circumstances, of doing equal service for Canada.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(R. G. MENZIES)

The Right Honourable J.G. Diefenbaker, Q.C., M.P.





PRIME MINISTER.  
CANBERRA.

CONFIDENTIAL.

20th January, 1960.

My dear Prime Minister,

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With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

ROBERT G MENZIES

(R. G. MENZIES)

The Right Honourable J.G. Diefenbaker, Q.C., M.P.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RESTRICTED**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM**



JT JT

0.913

Sent: 19th January, 1960  
1433

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

172. RESTRICTED.

Your 4823.

External regret that cable about Feakes misdirected at this end as they, particularly, are aware of need to consult High Commissioner about all proposed staff changes. Feakes' appointment as Charge d'Affaires, Cairo, likely to be for one year and External hope that arrangements can be made for him to take up duty almost immediately. Intention is that he will not return to London. Replacement Miss M. McPherson, External Affairs Officer Grade II, from Geneva, due Australia House beginning of February.

-----  
P.M.'S. DEPT.(57/612)  
MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

(Cost £9.3.4)

19th January, 1960.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS **RESTRICTED**  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

HP.MMc

I.868

Dated: 14th January 1960  
2025

Rec'd: 15th January 1960  
0830



FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
L O N D O N.

196. RESTRICTED.

Repeated Saving Ottawa.

From External.

Australia Day Reception Cairo.

Your 56.

Following is telegram received through Canadian  
High Commission -

Please pass following message to Australia House  
for Peakes and for transmission to External Canberra from  
Nicholson:

Commonwealth colleagues down to First Secretary  
total 50 (including wives). Local Australians total about  
20. Suggest local officials about 15. Suggest also United  
States Charge and about 14 local and foreign born guests.  
Not repeat not all of course would attend. Grateful for  
authority to invite approximately these numbers and possibly  
a few others we may think desirable to include.

Ends.

2. These arrangements seem satisfactory to us.  
Please confirm that we may advise Nicholson accordingly.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/6/1)  
P.M.'s.

15th January, 1960.

**RESTRICTED**



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM **RESTRICTED**

BW

0.611

Sent: 12th January, 1960.  
1600  
(via leased channel)

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

14. RESTRICTED.

Grateful if Canadian Embassy, Cairo, could be informed that Feakes' letter of appointment (addressed to Foreign Minister) is being forwarded by hand of pilot of Qantas Flight EM573 due Cairo Friday, 15th January. It will be under cover addressed to Canadian Embassy, Cairo and we should be grateful if Embassy could make arrangements to have cover collected at airport.

E.A.  
P.M'S

13th January, 1960.



KH



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

O. 365.

hp:MP

Sent: 7th January, 1960.  
1945.

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

56. CONFIDENTIAL

For Shann. Your 37.

Cairo Legation.

Letter of appointment from Minister to Fawzi for Feakes as Charge d'Affaires A.I. will be sent by direct airmail to Canadian Embassy Cairo to precede his arrival. We are asking Ottawa to request Embassy to prepare the ground for Feakes to present it as soon as possible thereafter. It would naturally be preferable for him to present letter before Australia Day if this is practicable.

2. We agree that Australia Day reception should be limited in numbers as you suggest. As invitation cards cannot very well be sent out until Feakes has assumed his functions, we also agree that informal invitations would be best. These should be issued in Feakes' name. Nicholson could telephone or write to those concerned and we are telegraphing him accordingly.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/6/1)  
P.M.'s.

(COST £7.12.0)  
10th January, 1960.



K4



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

:JT

I.302

Dated: 6th January, 1960.

1528

Rec'd: 7th January, 1960.

0830

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

44. UNCLASSIFIED.

From High Commissioner.

Feakes proposes leaving London Friday 15th  
January arriving Cairo Tuesday 19th January by Qantas  
flight EM572 from Rome.

Canadian High Commission will be advised for  
information of Embassy Cairo.

E.A.  
P.M'S.

7th January, 1960.



74



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

LS:JT

I.263

Dated: 5th January, 1960.

2235

Rec'd: 6th January, 1960.

0830

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

37. CONFIDENTIAL.

From External.

Re-Establishment of Legation Cairo.

The Canadian High Commission has shown us copies of Cairo telegrams 1262 of 30th December and 5 of 4th January.

2. Cairo has also raised the question of Australia Day reception. After consulting Smith who is now in London we consider that reception should, on this occasion, be limited to about 50 or 60 people comprising local Australians, Commonwealth colleagues and perhaps members of U.A.R. The Foreign Ministry who have been closely associated with the resumption of relations. Cairo has also enquired in whose name invitation should be printed and sent. Order for printing needs to be placed by Friday 8th January. I would think that more informal arrangements not involving printing of cards might be made for invitations this year. In any event in view of imminence of Australia Day desirable for Peake's letter to be in his hands as soon as possible.

3. Grateful advice.

..Shann.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

6th January, 1960.



KH



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

INWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

57/612

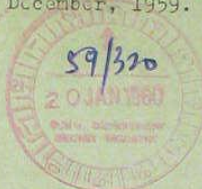
AH:

I.23675

Sent: 22nd December, 1959.  
1715  
R'cd: 23rd December, 1959.  
0830

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.



4823. CONFIDENTIAL.

Prime Minister's from Acting Official Secretary.

Cable 3585. }

Appointment Fookes. High Commissioner concurs.  
Is it intended that he will return to London when Minister is  
appointed? If detachment is temporary have you any idea when  
he might be returning?

Appreciate any advice.

-----

P.M.'S DEPT. (214/10/6/1)  
MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S

23rd December, 1959.

*Boyle?*  
*Tham*



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.  
CONFIDENTIAL

MMC:JT

O.17012

Dated: 17th December, 1959  
1945

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.3585. CONFIDENTIAL.

For Shann.

Minister has approved appointment of Feakes as Charge d'Affaires a.i. to reopen Australian Legation Cairo pending nomination of Minister. We should like Feakes to take up duty in Cairo in third week in January.

2. We shall be sending you Miss Macpherson from Geneva as replacement.

3. We intend to telegraph Ottawa on 21st December asking that Smith be instructed to inform U.A.R. authorities. Please do not tell United Kingdom until we advise you further.

----- (Cost £6/5/-)

MIN. &amp; DEPT. E.A. (214/10/6/1) 21st December, 1959.

*P. S.*





THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.  
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.





DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

IS.

I.22522/23.

Sent: 5th December, 1959.  
1130.

Recd: 6th December, 1959.  
1126.

(Via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

UN1393 CONFIDENTIAL.

REPEATED: Washington for information; London Savingram 177.

RELATIONS WITH U.A.R.

Fawzi (Foreign Minister of U.A.R.) told me last night that U.A.R. would open Diplomatic Mission in Australia. He regarded this as an essential part of our two countries getting to understand one another better. He wanted to have a number of men in U.A.R. Foreign Service who knew Australia from personal experience there and who had some idea of what our relations and intentions were with Asian States. Only reason for delay in opening in Australia was that he had to get approval of Minister of Finance (who had been very difficult about finding funds for recent opening of U.A.R. Mission in Mexico).

2. I mentioned that we would need buildings for office and for staff residences (paragraph 2 of your telegram No.701). He made no comment.

3. Fawzi said biggest problem just now for U.A.R. was economic and specifically how to keep production increasing as fast as population. We had some discussion of economic problems associated with deserts and I told him of experimental work being done in Australia to reduce evaporation by devising some surface for water in dams. Fawzi suggested that when our Mission establishes itself in Cairo we might find that inter-governmental discussion and cooperation on such problems of desert and heat would be a useful way of building up contacts again including contacts in political field.

4. I talked to Fawzi more generally along lines similar to those we used with Japan a few years ago when we were trying to prevent Japan becoming too closely tied to Afro-Asian group. I said U.A.R. was a major power with great responsibilities and could not afford to allow its

...../2.



INWARD CABLEGRAM

-2-

I.22522/23.

actions and policies to be determined by majority decisions of a group of small inexperienced African states who had no big responsibilities and who would not have to bear consequences of anything going wrong. This obviously struck a responsive note in Fawzi, who said in effect that on a number of things the U.A.R. was now being dragged along instead of leading. He said one of his problems was that Arab public opinion would not understand it if U.A.R. did not back up policies of other Arab and African states.

5. We also discussed Algeria, which I am reporting separately.

Plimsoll.

\* \* \* \*

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S..

6th December, 1959.

C O N F I D E N T I A L.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

59/320

JG:HC

I.22307

Dated: 2nd December, 1959.

1504

Rec'd: 4th December, 1959.

1130

FROM:

Canadian Embassy,  
CAIRO.

24. UNCLASSIFIED PRIORITY.

Your telegram 20.

Cairo Chancery.

Mobil Oil office available from 1st January.  
Option to 15th December obtained. Rental offered same as for  
operation administration and lower rental not obtainable.

Lease available to Australian Government for  
two years with option of further one year, in all other respects  
same as given to operation administration (copy being sent by  
bag 3rd December). We would have to pay for all alterations  
(and restoration on leaving) telephones, electricity and  
running costs of airconditioning.

Nicholson.

-----  
IMMIGRATION (59/64769)  
A.S.I.O. (M)  
P.M's.

4th December, 1959.



SECRET

~~SECRET CODE~~  
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

../JS

O. 15940

59/320

Sent: 30th November, 1959.  
1842

(Via Leased Channel)

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.701. SECRET PRIORITY.

For Plimsoll.

Your U.N. 1329 - Fawzi.

In case date of re-opening of our Cairo Legation is raised you may care to repeat what we told U.A.R. through Canadians just after resumption of relations, viz., that we wish to ensure operation of post at effective strength from outset, but administrative mechanics of this will demand some time.

2. There may be some point in telling Fawzi that we own adequate residence, but will be requiring chancery and other residences, preferably in Zamalek.

3. Without appearing to show too great interest you might perhaps sound Faqzi on press reports at time of resumption of relations that U.A.R. would open mission in Canberra. On this see Ottawa's 91 of 20th October to you.

4. If opportunity arises please refer to C.S.I.R.O. crate of meteorological instruments confiscated from "Tagos" in July. You might say we had been given hope in September that it would be released to Canadian Ambassador (paragraph 5 of Ottawa's 85 to you), but no move has yet been made to release it.

5. In case London's Savingsram No. 217 of 26th November, has not yet reached you should know that the United Kingdom and U.A.R. were to announce on 1st December re-establishment of diplomatic relations at Charge d'Affaires level, and that Crowe will be United Kingdom representative.

6. If discussion becomes general you might speak along following lines (as your personal views):- Situation in Middle East looks relatively stable. Stability, however, depends to large extent on Iraq. Kassem seems to be holding his position. We regard as ill-founded fears expressed in some quarters that Iran, Jordan or Israel (or even Cento) will intervene in Iraq, but they would no doubt react if there were intervention from any other quarter. U.S.S.R. pressure on Iran seems another possible source of trouble. Soviet bloc activities still constitute the major threat to Middle East.

7. You might enquire whether Fawzi sees any prospect of settlement on any issue with Israel. (For your own information we understand that Nasser's personal belief is that such a settlement is both desirable and inevitable, but that Arab animosity will continue to delay it).

SECRET



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM<sup>10</sup>

SECRET

8. On Africa you might mention that we hope Arabs and F.L.N. will realise that de Gaulle's offer on Algeria is best that can be hoped for and we hope nothing will be done to prevent its implementation. Similarly, we hope that disturbances in Africa south of Sahara will not be fostered by any quarter, since they can only result in delay in present orderly approach towards independence.

-----

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.N.'s.

1st December, 1959.

SECRET





SECRET

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM,  
CANBERRA

59/320

POL. 341/71/1

27th November, 1959

Dear Maurice,

Further to my letter of 18th November under this reference, we have been asked to inform you in strict confidence that Heikal (who is a member of Colonel Nasser's entourage deputed to deal with Mr. Crowe) has told Mr. Crowe that the U.A.R. Government are now prepared to issue a communique on December 1st, announcing the exchange of Charge d'Affaires. The communique will merely announce that both Governments have agreed to re-establish diplomatic relations at the level of Charge d'Affaires.

2. We hope there will be no last minute hitch. Meanwhile you will appreciate the need to keep this information strictly confidential. We hope to send you further background information.

3. I am sending a copy of this letter to John Rowlands in External Affairs.

Yours sincerely,  
Tony Molyneux

mw Heracle

(J. A. MOLYNEUX)

M.C. Timbs, Esq.,  
Prime Minister's Department,  
CANBERRA

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Cops to reference*  
1 DEC 1959

SECRET

6. If discussion becomes general you might speak along following lines (as your personal views):- Situation in Middle East looks relatively stable. Stability, however, depends to large extent on Iraq. Kassem seems to be holding his position. We regard as ill-founded fears expressed in some quarters that Iran, Jordan or Israel (or even Ceto) will intervene in Iraq, but they would no doubt react if there were intervention from any other quarter. U.S.S.R. pressure on Iran seems another possible source of trouble. Soviet bloc activities still constitute the major threat to Middle East.

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SECRET

KH



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

../JS

O. 15940

Sent: 19th November, 1959.  
1842

(Via Leased Channel)

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

701. SECRET PRIORITY.

For Plimsoll.

Your U.N. 1329 - Fawzi.

In case date of re-opening of our Cairo Legation is raised you may care to repeat what we told U.A.R. through Canadians just after resumption of relations, viz., that we wish to ensure operation of post at effective strength from outset, but administrative mechanics of this will demand some time.

2. There may be some point in telling Fawzi that we own adequate residence, but will be requiring chancery and other residences, preferably in Zamalek.

3. Without appearing to show too great interest you might perhaps sound Faqzi on press reports at time of resumption of relations that U.A.R. would open mission in Canberra. On this see Ottawa's 91 of 20th October to you.

4. If opportunity arises please refer to C.S.I.R.O. crate of meteorological instruments confiscated from "Tagos" in July. You might say we had been given hope in September that it would be released to Canadian Ambassador (paragraph 5 of Ottawa's 8 to you), but no move has yet been made to release it.

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SECRET



OUTWARD-2-CABLEGRAM

SECRET

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-----

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s.

1st December, 1959.

SECRET



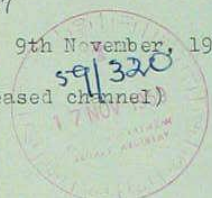
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM** **CONFIDENTIAL**

REW:LS.

0.14827

Sent: 9th November, 1959.  
1530.

\* (Via leased channel)



TO:

\* Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....420.

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON (For External)...3169.

Australian Embassy,  
ROME.....371.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Our: 400 to Ottawa,  
3073 to London,  
351 to Rome.

Thanks for your comments. We have now decided to defer visit by trade representative until Legation is re-established.

FOR ROME:

For your own information, Legation is likely to be re-established about end of January next.

\* \* \* \* \*

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C)  
P.M.'S.

COST: £3/15/-

11th November, 1959.

*Copy PL*



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

:FPG

I.20475

Dated: 9th November, 1959  
1720Rec'd: 10th November, 1959  
0948  
(Via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.464 SECRET.

For Acting Minister from Cawthorn.

Reference your 392. Mr. Green on return from Europe  
has asked me to pass following to you.

Begins:-

I am most grateful for your very kind references to the role played by the Canadian Government and our Ambassador at Cairo, on behalf of the Australian Government, in the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Australia and the United Arab Republic. The full co-operation and understanding extended to us by your Government and the Australian High Commissioner in Ottawa have greatly facilitated what was to us, in some ways, a novel although highly gratifying task.

Ends.

A/ MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P. M.'S.

10th November, 1959.

SECRET

MET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM **CONFIDENTIAL**

:FPG

I.19726

Dated: 29th October, 1959  
2142

Rec'd: 30th October, 1959  
1015



FROM:

Australian Embassy,  
ROME.

183 CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Ottawa 1, London 16.

Relations with U.A.R.

With reference to your telegram 351.

Both Cook and I, on the basis of our Egyptian experience, believe his projected visit to Cairo would achieve must better results if made after and not before the re-establishment of our Mission there. We both believe he might find himself in an embarrassing and possibly ineffective position otherwise.

2. For personal reasons, which Cook has already conveyed to McClintock in another connection, it would be very difficult for him to leave Rome before early January. There is the further consideration that Cook was a member of our Mission in Cairo when it was expelled. Is it not diplomatic practice that expelled diplomatic personnel do not return in an official capacity to the country concerned?

3. Apart from possible Egyptian objections on this point, there should be no difficulty obtaining diplomatic visa since one was issued to McGuire last year for his El Alamein visit.

MCCLURE-SMITH.

A/ MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C)  
P.M.'S.

30th October, 1959.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

mt



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM**

AH:

O.14234

Sent: 29th October, 1959.  
1010

\* via leased channel

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....396 \*

REPEATED:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.....3073 (For External)

Australian Embassy,  
ROME.....351 (for information)

CONFIDENTIAL.

Relations with U.A.R.

Department of Trade wish Trade Commissioner, Rome, (Mr.H.K.H. Cook, formerly Trade Commissioner, Cairo) to visit Cairo shortly to survey trade prospects following resumption of relations. Visit is expected to take place before end of 1959 and Cook will be in Egypt for about two to three weeks.

2. We should be grateful if the Canadian authorities would seek the comments of the Canadian Ambassador Cairo on the proposed visit. If he sees no objection, would he be prepared to arranged for Cook to make use of office facilities in the Canadian Embassy and Nicholson's assistance?

3. We assume that a diplomatic visa will ensure the necessary degree of protection for Cook during his visit and that it will not be necessary to attach him temporarily to the Canadian Embassy to achieve this.

4. Canadian Ambassador may at his discretion discuss Cook's proposed visit informally with U.A.R. authorities. We assume that they would not object to Cook on grounds of his former posting in Cairo. We wish to make use of Cook in this matter because his experience of Egyptian conditions will enable him to make effective survey quickly. Such a survey would, in our view, assist in the development of trade between U.A.R. and Australia, which both countries desire.

For Rome and London.

5. Glad your brief cabled comments.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C)  
P.M.'S

(Cost £23.2.6.)

29th October, 1959.



mit



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

:FPG

I.19611

Dated: 28th October, 1959  
1920

Rec'd: 29th October, 1959  
0830

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

4080 CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Ottawa 78, Rome 35.

From External.

Relations with U.A.R.

Your 3073. There appear to be two points for comment in connection with Cook's visit.

- (a) Its timing in relation to re-establishment of the Legation;
- (b) His previous posting in Cairo.

2. At a departmental level, the Foreign Office are inclined to think that the Egyptians may find it strange that our first step after announcement of the resumption of relations is to send a trade representative temporarily to Cairo from another post although we cannot yet re-establish the Legation.

3. As to (b) above, the Foreign Office have been given to understand indirectly by the Egyptians that they would prefer fresh faces among United Kingdom representatives in Cairo and the Foreign Office have chosen their staff there accordingly. This Egyptian preference may not apply to Australian representatives; the latter were not the subject of personal accusations (of spying etc.) as were some United Kingdom representatives.

4. In order to avoid possible complication in our future relations with the Egyptians, it seems important that the idea of Cook's visit should be put to the Egyptians as a proposal on which we are seeking their views. Smith might be able to stress that we wish to send Cook quickly from Rome because of our interest in the early development of trade that a permanent trade representative will subsequently be appointed in the Legation at Cairo and that it is precisely because of his previous Egyptian experience that Cook is able to undertake the sort of quick trade survey you contemplate.

A/ MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C)  
P.M.'S.

29th October, 1959.





OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

SECRET

MMc.MMc

O.14182

Sent: 27th October 1959  
1839  
(Via leased channel.)

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A.



392. SECRET.

Cawthorn from Barwick.

Please pass following message from me to Canadian  
Minister for External Affairs.

Begins -

It is a pleasure to convey to you the Australian  
Government's very real appreciation of the interest and  
judgment which the Canadian Government and its Ambassador in  
Cairo (Mr. Arnold Smith) have so generously devoted to  
achieving the restoration of full diplomatic relations between  
Australia and the United Arab Republic.

Ends.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s.

28th October, 1959.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.** **CONFIDENTIAL**



MP:JT

I.19672

Dated: 29th October, 1959.

1230

Rec'd: 30th October, 1959.

0850

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

444. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated London (for External) 16 and Rome 1.

Relations with U.A.R.

We received London's 78 before your 396. Do you wish to amend latter before we take up with Canadians? We see considerable force in London's paragraph 4.

-----  
A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C)  
P.M'S.

30th October, 1959.

mt



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

MMC:CV

I.19129



Dated: 22nd October, 1959.

1820

Rec'd: 23rd October, 1959.

1001

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

431. CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

Repeated Washington 666 (for the Minister),  
Australian Mission New York 92 (for Plimsoll) and London (for  
Shann) Savingram 61.

Our 425.

Canadian Embassy Cairo has advised (telegram 960  
of 22nd October) as follows. Begins:

Agreed press release was issued by Information  
Director on October 19 and accurately reported in "Gomhouria",  
"Al Akhbar" and "Egyptian Gazette" on October 20th. Brief  
press speculation had appeared earlier from October 16th. There  
has been no editorial comment. We have had inquiries from the  
press but the question of initiative for resumption of  
relations was not raised. On October 17th "Akhbar El Yom"  
carried a full page of journalists' impressions of Australia.  
The tone was generally favourable.

2. We have as yet seen no reports of comments in  
Arabic Press outside of U.A.R. Ends.

2. Following extract from Smith's telegram 948 of 20th  
October has also just been handed to us. Begins:

Australian Relations. The President said he had  
asked Ali Sabri to tell me that he had accepted our recommendation  
to resume diplomatic relations with Australia. He shared my  
hope that this would lead to increasing understanding and  
friendship. I took the opportunity to tell the President that  
following the joint press release tomorrow morning Australia  
intended to reopen its Legation in Cairo as soon as practicable,  
with a Charge and attendant staff, and explained that administrat-  
ive mechanics would demand several weeks to implement this.  
The President readily understood this. Ends.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M'S

23rd October, 1959.

154



## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

MP:ABJ.

0.13850.

Sent: 20th October, 1959.  
1906.

TO:

Australia, High Commission,  
LONDON.3004 CONFIDENTIAL.For External.Establishment of Diplomatic Relations with U.A.R.

As you know, before we agree to establish diplomatic relations with another Government we seek approval of the Queen. In the case of U.A.R. events moved more rapidly than we had anticipated and we were unable to take soundings on whether Queen's approval would be necessary.

2. This would seem to depend on the following two points:

- (a) Does Her Majesty's approval expire if one of Her Missions is expelled as in the case of the Australian Legation in Cairo in 1956?
- (b) Does the fact that our Legation in Cairo was accredited to the Egyptian Government, whereas an eventual Australian Mission in Cairo will be accredited to U.A.R. Government, in itself necessitate a new approach to the Queen?

3. Grateful if you would informally seek views of Foreign Office and advise.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1506/11)  
P.M.'S.

21st October, 1959.

*file*

Cahmy



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

HP:ABJ.

O.13849.

Sent: 20th October, 1959.  
1818.

\*(Transmitted via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA....384\*

REPEATED:

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON...1319\* (For The Minister).

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK...605\* (For Mr. Plimsoll)

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON...3003 (For Mr. Shann).

CONFIDENTIAL IMMEDIATE.

Glad early confirmation U.A.R. press statement  
issued 19th October as agreed.

2. We understand that, in his telegram 928 of 15th  
October, Arnold Smith mentioned possibility of U.A.R. mission  
in Canberra and trade relations. Glad details.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'S.

(Cost £3/18/-)

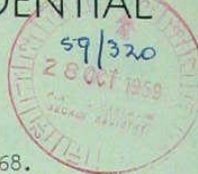
21st October, 1959.

Copy met



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL



LS.

I.18968.

Sent: 20th October, 1959.  
1900  
Rec'd: 21st October, 1959.  
0830.

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

. 3973 CONFIDENTIAL.

From External.

Your 3004.

Establishment of diplomatic relations with U.A.R.

We have discussed this with the Protocol Department, Foreign Office, whose view, in general, is that we should at least, as a matter of courtesy, have sought the approval of the Queen before the announcement to re-establish diplomatic relations with the U.A.R. was made.

2. More especially, the decision to install a mission in Cairo again implies the appointment of a minister for which Her Majesty's approval would be necessary. In any event, even if there had been no expulsion of our mission from Cairo, a Minister who has been accredited to a country and that country amalgamates with another will need new letters. This involves seeking the Queen's pleasure. In short, it is possible that the Sovereign might be less willing to accredit a mission to the composit state than to the old one.

3. In the circumstances, I would suggest that the events of the past few months and the speed with which they took place should be set out for the information of Her Majesty and her concurrence in the re-establishment of diplomatic relations and the accreditation of a new mission be sought.

Shann.

\*\*\*\*\*

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1506/11)  
P.M.'S.

21st October, 1959.

*file*

CONFIDENTIAL

*Copy sent*



## OUTWARD SAVINGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

CW

O.13912

Sent: 22nd October, 1959.

TO:

ALL POSTS.SAV. A.P.33 CONFIDENTIAL.

Our telegram AP32 of 19th October and Savingram AP11 of 15th April, 1959.

Relations with U.A.R.

The principal difficulty with the U.A.R. remaining at the time of our Sav.AP11 was the question of the future of the damaged Anzac Memorial at Port Said. In response to a joint approach by Australia and New Zealand, the U.A.R. agreed in July, 1959, to release the Memorial for shipment to Australia. On 17th October Australia and New Zealand individually announced that, with U.A.R. concurrence, the Memorial was to be dismantled and brought back to Australia for re-erection at Albany (the point of departure of the original Anzac contingent), costs of dismantling and shipment to Albany being shared equally by Australia and New Zealand and the cost of re-erection being met entirely by Australia.

2. We received word on 16th October that the U.A.R. had informed the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo that they were agreeable to the immediate re-establishment of diplomatic relations and the re-opening of the Australian Legation in Cairo. We concurred, and on 19th October both Governments individually announced this development.

3. As guidance to the press we said that the Minister and the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo had for many months been engaged in removing various disabilities imposed on Australians following the events of 1956. These included legal, commercial, financial and visa disabilities. These had all been removed. With the achievement of agreement on the future of the Anzac Memorial the last obstacle to the resumption of relations had been removed.

4. If questioned about the initiative for the resumption of relations, we and the U.A.R. will say that the proposal was made by the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo to both parties and accepted by both.

5. We have told the U.A.R. that it is our intention to re-open the Legation in Cairo as soon as practicable with Charge d'Affaires and attendant staff, but that the administrative mechanics of this will require some time. In the meantime we propose to continue the present arrangement whereby an Australian officer (Mr. I. Nicholson) is a member of the Canadian Embassy in Cairo as head of the Australian Interests Section.

6. We have, over the past months, kept the Canadian, United Kingdom, and New Zealand authorities informed regarding progress towards resumption of relations. The United States and French Embassies in Canberra were informed of the announcement (without detailed background) shortly before it was made.

CONFIDENTIAL

file

Copy MT



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD SAVINGRAM.** **CONFIDENTIAL**

-2-

0.13912

7. You may at your discretion draw on the foregoing in discussion regarding the resumption of relations.

8. Section 5.13 (Contacts with U.A.R. Personnel) of the Departmental Instructions is rescinded. There are no longer any restrictions on official or social contacts with your U.A.R. colleagues.

-----

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.A.(214/10/1)  
P.M'S

22nd October, 1959.

**CONFIDENTIAL**



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

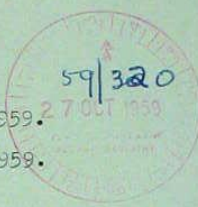
BW/ENM

I.19262

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

Sent: 23rd October, 1959.  
1732  
Rec'd: 24th October, 1959.  
0830



4032 CONFIDENTIAL.

From External.

Relations with U.A.R.

Levant, Department Foreign Office told us yesterday that Crow had put to U.A.R. proposal for appointment of a Charge d'Affaires forthwith instead of expansion of Consular Commercial and Cultural activities of present Mission. U.A.R. had not yet responded but the Foreign Office are not optimistic.

2. We discussed arrangements for re-opening Australia Legation (your 2978 and 2979. Our informant said that the United Kingdom would not wish formally to express any views on these arrangements but he added his own personal observations which I send you since the person concerned has borne the main burden at departmental level in Foreign Office of United Kingdom negotiations with Egyptians for almost three years and his opinions are certainly very well informed. He said that in his view, it would be unwise to delay establishing Mission in Cairo since we now had the opportunity to start on the right foot with the U.A.R. Even in a few weeks the atmosphere could change. He also said that although it was not formally necessary to do so it would be a good idea to tell the Egyptians of the name of the person we proposed appointing as Charge d'Affaires before the appointment was made. It was perhaps a pity that it had not been possible to keep Gardner on as Charge d'Affaires since he was by now presumably well known to the Egyptians. The Foreign Office had sent Crowe to Cairo in charge of their present Mission so that the Egyptians could get used to him before a United Kingdom Diplomatic Mission (which Crowe would head for the time being anyway) was established.

3. Please protect source.

Shann.

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A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s

24th October, 1959.

CONFIDENTIAL

met





A 0 55

57/1308

FOR THE PRESS

Released only in Canberra

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

PR 130

19th October 1959

AUSTRALIAN - U.A.R. RELATIONS

The Acting Minister for External Affairs,  
Sir Garfield Barwick, announced today that the Governments of  
Australia and the United Arab Republic <sup>have</sup> agreed to the re-establishment  
of diplomatic relations and the re-opening of the Australian Legation  
in Cairo.

This decision has been taken on the basis of mutual  
interest and desire of the two Governments following informal discussions  
between the United Arab Republic Government and the Canadian Ambassador  
in Cairo who has been responsible for the protection of Australian  
interests in the United Arab Republic.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD SAVINGRAM.** **CONFIDENTIAL**

CW

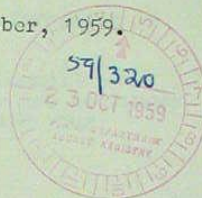
0.13912

Sent: 22nd October, 1959.

TO:

ALL POSTS.

SAV. A.P.33 CONFIDENTIAL.



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**CONFIDENTIAL**

*file*

*mt*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD SAVINGRAM** **CONFIDENTIAL**

-2-

0.13912

7. You may at your discretion draw on the foregoing in discussion regarding the resumption of relations.

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-----

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.A.(214/10/1)  
P.M.'S

22nd October, 1959.

CONFIDENTIAL



## DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

LS.

I.18968.

Sent: 20th October, 1959.

1900

Rec'd: 21st October, 1959.

0830.

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

3973

CONFIDENTIAL.

From External.

Your 3004.

Establishment of diplomatic relations with U.A.R.

We have discussed this with the Protocol Department, Foreign Office, whose view, in general, is that we should at least, as a matter of courtesy, have sought the approval of the Queen before the announcement to re-establish diplomatic relations with the U.A.R. was made.

2. More especially, the decision to install a mission in Cairo again implies the appointment of a minister for which Her Majesty's approval would be necessary. In any event, even if there had been no expulsion of our mission from Cairo, a Minister who has been accredited to a country and that country amalgamates with another will need new letters. This involves seeking the Queen's pleasure. In short, it is possible that the Sovereign might be less willing to accredit a mission to the composit state than to the old one.

3. In the circumstances, I would suggest that the events of the past few months and the speed with which they took place should be set out for the information of Her Majesty and her concurrence in the re-establishment of diplomatic relations and the accreditation of a new mission be sought.

Shann.

\*\*\*\*\*

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1506/11)  
P.M.'S.

21st October, 1959.

*file*

✓

CONFIDENTIAL

*mu*



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

MP:ABJ.

O.13850.

Sent: 20th October, 1959.  
1906.

TO:

Australia High Commission,  
LONDON.

3004 CONFIDENTIAL.



For External.

Establishment of Diplomatic Relations with U.A.R.

As you know, before we agree to establish diplomatic relations with another Government we seek approval of the Queen. In the case of U.A.R. events moved more rapidly than we had anticipated and we were unable to take soundings on whether Queen's approval would be necessary.

2. This would seem to depend on the following two points:

- (a) Does Her Majesty's approval expire if one of Her Missions is expelled as in the case of the Australian Legation in Cairo in 1956?
- (b) Does the fact that our Legation in Cairo was accredited to the Egyptian Government, whereas an eventual Australian Mission in Cairo will be accredited to U.A.R. Government, in itself necessitate a new approach to the Queen?

3. Grateful if you would informally seek views of Foreign Office and advise.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1506/11)  
P.M.'S.

21st October, 1959.

*free*

*mt*



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM  
CONFIDENTIAL

HP:ABJ.

0.13849.

Sent: 20th October, 1959.  
1818.

TO:

(Transmitted via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA....384

REPEATED:

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON...1319\* (For The Minister).

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK...605\* (For Mr. Plimsoll)

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON...3003 (For Mr. Shann).



CONFIDENTIAL IMMEDIATE.

Glad early confirmation U.A.R. press statement  
issued 19th October as agreed.

2. We understand that, in his telegram 928 of 15th  
October, Arnold Smith mentioned possibility of U.A.R. mission  
in Canberra and trade relations. Glad details.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (21/10/1)  
P.M.'S.

(Cost £3/18/-)

21st October, 1959.

met



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

AH:

0.13777

Sent: 19th October, 1959.  
1850

\* (Via leased channel)

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....381 \*

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.....1308 \*

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.....602 \*

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.....2986 (For External)



CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

Resumption of Relations with U.A.R.

We are giving press following guidance approved by  
Acting Minister.

Begins:

Minister for External Affairs and Canadian Ambassador  
Cairo, have for many months been engaged in removing various  
disabilities imposed on Australians following events of 1956.  
These included legal, commercial, financial and visa disabilities.  
These have all been removed. With the achievement of agreement  
on the future of the Anzac Memorial at Port Said (Acting Minister's  
press release of 17th October) the last obstacle to resumption of  
relations was removed.

Ends.

2. If questioned about initiative for resumption U.A.R.  
will say that proposal was made by Canadian Ambassador in Cairo  
to both parties and accepted by both. We propose to do the same.

3. You may care to draw on above.

-----  
A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'S

(Cost £8.0.0.)  
20th October, 1959.

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**



AH:

O.13761

Sent: 19th October, 1959.  
1350

TO:

ALL POSTS.

AP32. UNCLASSIFIED.

Australia and U.A.R. are to announce 19th  
October agreement re-establish diplomatic relations on basis  
mutual interest and desire following informal discussions  
between U.A.R. and Canadian Ambassador, Cairo.

----

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'S

20th October, 1959.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM** **CONFIDENTIAL**

MMC:HF

I.18993

FROM:

Dated: 20th October, 1959.

1520

Rec'd: 21st October, 1959.

1020

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

(Via leased channel)

425. CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

Repeated Washington (for the Minister) 652, Australian Mission New York (for Plimsoll) 91, and London (for Shann) Saving 60.

Your 384.

Canadian Embassy, Cairo, has been asked to advise immediately whether U.A.R. issued press statement 19th October as agreed.

2. Smith's 928, although dated 15th October, did not reach Ottawa (through London) until 19th October.

Text begins -

In my telegram 927 I reported U.A.R. Governments agreement for immediate restoration of Diplomatic relations with Australia. I told Ali Sabri that I was sure my Government would welcome this decision as I did myself. I asked whether U.A.R. proposed for its part to open a Mission at this time in Canberra. Ali Sabri said that re-opening of Australian Legation in Cairo would be first step. This decision had been taken by the President. There had never been a U.A.R. Mission in Australia. Foreign Ministry would have to consider, during the months ahead, in light of its budget, whether and if so how soon it could open one. In principle U.A.R. would like to do this. Even if budgetary difficulties delayed such a step, Ali Sabri hoped that development of trade between U.A.R. and Australia would make it possible before too long. (However Ali Sabri hoped it would not be necessary to say anything publicly about this possibility just at present.)

2. Ali Sabri said that U.A.R. would look into possibility of buying wool tops from Australia, to the tune of three million pounds worth per annum, and to possibility of selling cotton in Australia so as to develop a two-way trade. Ali Sabri said his economic advisers hoped something along these lines would prove possible in near future. Question could be discussed by U.A.R. trade officials with Australian Legation when it was established.

Ends.

3. Smith's 927 was passed to you by Washington as No.2255.

-----  
A/Min. & Dept. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s.

21st October, 1959.



SECRET

SHA.MMc

## INWARD CABLEGRAM 8726

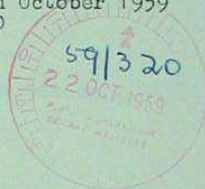
Dated: 16th October 1959

1640

Rec'd: 17th October 1959

0830

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
L O N D O N.3916. SECRET.

Repeat to Washington 208 (for Mr. Casey). (Please pass to New York 141, Ottawa 72). Repeat saving to Paris, Rome, Tel Aviv, Accra.

Relations with U.A.R.

Parrot of A.A.P. called me this morning to enquire about authenticity of Reuter report from Cairo of "El Gomhuria" article claiming that agreement had been reached between Canadians acting for us and Egyptians on resumption of relations. I was not in a position to make any comment.

2. Subsequently I phoned the Canadians who had just received a telegram from Cairo addressed to Ottawa and repeated to them and Canberra giving the text designed for release on Monday (subject, of course, I assume to your concurrence) of a joint statement agreed between Smith and Aly Sabry about the re-establishment of the Australian Legation.

3. As we have been keeping each other more or less in touch on developments in this matter I have taken it upon myself to inform the Foreign Office and the C.R.O. of the terms of Smith's telegram making it clear that any early announcement would be subject to decisions in Canberra. At least they know now that the subject is active and may be coming to an early head and will have heard about it from us and not from "El Gomhuria" and Reuters.

4. Both the Foreign Office and the C.R.O. expressed considerable pleasure at the possibility of an early settlement of the question and the Foreign Office said it would be "positively helpful" to them.

5. Things are moving on the United Kingdom-U.A.R. front also. It appears that suggestions have been made for a stepping up of the Consular commercial and cultural activities of the British Mission in Cairo with the possible resumption of diplomatic relations in about a month. Crowe has, however, reacted to these ideas by suggesting that it would be complicated to expand existing arrangements and that the United Kingdom should go for the appointment of a Charge d'Affaires right away. A decision on the next step is at present awaited from the Foreign Secretary and the Foreign Office does not know what it will be.

Shann.

SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
2.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

**SECRET**

I.18726

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s.

17th October, 1959.

**SECRET**



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

SHA.MMc

I.18761

Dated: 16th October 1959  
1210

Rec'd: 17th October 1959  
0830

(Via leased channel.)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A.

417. SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

Repeated Washington 641 (For Mr. Casey.)

Your 375.

Australia - U.A.R. Relations.

1. Message as received passed to External here for despatch to Smith.

2. Especially in view of paragraphs 4 and 5 of Smith's telegram and fact that your message makes no direct reference to points he raised, External here (and I also) find some conflict between wording in your 'A' and 'C' as regards timing of re opening of Legation. If "reopening" refers to setting up of Legation in separate building this conflict could be resolved by inserting "in due course" after "re opening" in 'A'.

3. External presume and would like so to inform Smith that from or shortly after date of resumption of relations Nicholson will act as Charge d'Affaires even if not in separate building.

4. External anticipate Egyptians will raise these points if message is handed over in present form and would like to put Smith into position to answer on above or any other lines which you may desire.

5. Request immediate advice.

Cawthorn.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s.

17th October, 1959.

SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**



JT.MMc

I.18731

Dated: 16th October 1959  
2001  
Rec'd: 17th October 1959  
0900

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
L O N D O N.

3937. SECRET.

Repeate! Washington 209, Ottawa 73, New York 142.

From External.

Your 2977 and 2978.

Relations with U.A.R..

I am relieved to have confirmation for action described in my 3915 (208 to Washington, 142 to New York, 72 to Ottawa). Additional information in your telegrams has been conveyed to Foreign Office.

Shann.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s.

17th October, 1959.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

I.18846

Dated: 19th October, 1959.  
1955  
Rec'd: 20th October, 1959.  
0830



MNC:JT'

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

3959. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Savingsgram Ottawa.

From External.

U.A.R./Australian Relations.

Canadian High Commission here has given me telegram number 928 of 15th October from Smith, concerning possibility of U.A.R. Mission in Canberra and Trade Relations which I presume you will have from Ottawa.

Shann.

-----  
A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.(214/10/1)  
P.N'S.

20th October, 1959.

mt



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**



AH:

O.13761

Sent: 19th October, 1959.  
1350

TO:

ALL POSTS.

AP32. UNCLASSIFIED.

Australia and U.A.R. are to announce 19th October agreement re-establish diplomatic relations on basis mutual interest and desire following informal discussions between U.A.R. and Canadian Ambassador, Cairo.

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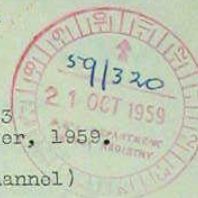
A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'S

20th October, 1959.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET



::HP

O.13733

Sent: 17th October, 1959  
1250

TO:

# (Via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....377. #

REPEATED TO:

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.....1301. (For Mr. Casey). #

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.....2979. (For External, for Shann).

SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

Your 417. Australia - U.A.R. Relations.

Please add "as soon as practicable" to paragraph 1A  
of our 375.

2. We see no reason why the presence of an Australian  
officer in the Canadian Embassy should affect the date of re-  
opening of our Legation.

3. Our aim is to re-open Legation as soon as we can with  
a Charge and attendant staff so that Legation may function  
effectively from the outset. Administrative mechanics however  
demand some time to do this. We should like Canadian  
Ambassador to explain this to U.A.R.

4. It seems unnecessary to tell U.A.R. precisely when  
we should re-open but we should like Canadian Government  
and Canadian Ambassador Cairo to know in view of the burden  
they have so generously and effectively borne on our behalf.  
On our present calculations, it might be end of 1959 or  
January 1960 before we can re-open.

A/Min. & Dept. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s.

Cost - £9.7.0.

19th October, 1959.

*file*

SECRET

*mt*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

ATTACHED COPY

I.18692



::HP

Dated: 16th October, 1959.

FROM:

0300

Rec'd: 16th October, 1959.

1750

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.

(Via leased channel)

2255. SECRET. EMERGENCY.

The following message received from Ottawa through  
courtesy of the Canadian Embassy.

Copy for Mr. Casey.

Australia-U.A.R. Relations.

I was summoned today to the Presidency and informed  
by Ali Sabri, on behalf of President Nasser, that the U.A.R.  
Government agree to the immediate re-establishment of diplomatic  
relations and re-opening of Australian Legation in Cairo.

2. Ali Sabri said that it was important for the U.A.R.  
to avoid any appearance that they had taken the initiative. They  
agreed however that it was not necessary to suggest any  
Australian initiative, and they have accepted a form of words  
which was drafted and which they will issue as a press release  
on Monday 19th October in Cairo. We assume that Australia will  
issue this same press release at the same time in Canberra.

Press release begins:-

"The Governments of the United Arab Republic and  
Australia have agreed to the re-establishment of diplomatic  
relations and the re-opening of the Australian Legation in Cairo.

This decision has been taken on the basis of mutual  
interest and desire of the two Governments following informal  
discussions between the United Arab Republic Government and  
the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo who has been responsible for  
the protection of Australian interests in the United Arab  
Republic".

Press release ends.

3. I agreed that the U.A.R. might, if questioned by the  
press about which side took the initiative about the  
resumption of relations, state that the proposal was made by  
the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo to both parties and accepted  
by both. I trust that if the Australian Government have to  
give more information than that in draft press release, some-  
thing along these lines would be satisfactory there also.  
Naturally there could be no objection to saying that such issues  
as sequestration, Anzac Memorial, etc. have been substantially  
disposed of.

4. I think it is desirable to implement immediately the  
decision to re-establish relations. Conceivably a tense  
situation could arise in Middle East, e.g. Iraq, and it seems  
to me desirable to get Legation re-opened before anything can  
arise to disturb present relatively serene political atmosphere  
in Cairo. I therefore took liberty of asking Ali Sabri whether

SECRET

/U.A.R.....



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

-2-

I.18692

U.A.R. Government would agree, should Australian Government so desire, to re-opening Legation within a few days after announcement of decision and whether they would accept Mr. Ian Nicholson as Charge d'Affaires. Ali Sabri agreed to both these points on behalf of U.A.R. Government.

5. I would therefore recommend that Australian Government consider immediate appointment of Mr. Nicholson as Charge d'Affaires. Naturally this Embassy will continue to give him every assistance he may require for security of documents, communications and otherwise, until such time as Australian Government can send out the staff they will require.

6. Incidentally Australian Government may be interested to know that Ali Sabri told me that U.A.R. Government has also now decided question of relations with United Kingdom. I have learned from Mr. Crowe that preliminary negotiations with them have begun.

7. I am leaving Cairo Monday morning, 19th October, for fortnights conference in Paris. If there is likely to be any hitch in Canberra over arrangements described above it would be helpful here if I could be informed by Saturday, 17th October, at latest.

8. See my immediately following telegram.

....Arnold Smith.

x Amendment

A/Min. & Dept. External Affairs.  
P.M.'s.

16th October, 1959.

SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

I.18692

::HF

Dated: 16th October, 1959.  
0300  
Rec'd: 16th October, 1959.  
1750

(Via leased channel)

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.

2255. SECRET. EMERGENCY.

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courtesy of the Canadian Embassy.

Copy for Mr. Casey.

Australia-U.A.R. Relations.

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by Ali Sabri, on behalf of President Nasser, that the U.A.R.  
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interest and desire of the two Governments following informal  
discussions between the United Arab Republic Government and  
the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo who has been responsible for  
the protection of Australian interests in the United Arab  
Republic".

Press release ends.

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press about which side took the initiative about the  
resumption of relations, state that the proposal was made by  
the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo to both parties and accepted  
by both. I trust that if the Australian Government have to  
give more information than that in draft press release, some-  
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as sequestration, Anzac Memorial, etc. have been substantially  
disposed of.

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decision to re-establish relations. Conceivably a tense  
situation could arise in Middle East, e.g. Iraq, and it seems  
to me desirable to get Legation re-opened before anything can  
arise to disturb present relatively serene political atmosphere  
in Cairo. I therefore took liberty of asking Ali Sabri whether

SECRET

/U.A.R. ....

*file.*  
*P.m. This cable came in on Saturday & I am leaving it in case you are asked to comment*  
*18.10.59*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

**SECRET**

-2-

I.18692

U.A.R. Government would agree, should Australian Government so desire, to re-opening Legation within a few days after announcement of decision and whether they would accept Mr. Ian Nicholson as Charge d'Affaires. Ali Sabri agreed to both these points on behalf of U.A.R. Government.

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8. See my immediately following telegram.

....Arnold Smith.

-----

A/Min. & Dept. External Affairs.  
P.M.'s.

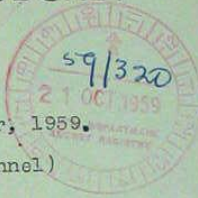
16th October, 1959.

**SECRET**



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET



TWWF:HP:HP

O.15732  
Sent: 16th October, 1959.  
2053  
\* (Via leased channel)

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....375. \*

REPEATED TO:

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.....1299. (For Mr. Casey). \*

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.....2978. (For Shann).

SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

Australia - U.A.R. Relations.

Reference emergency message from Ottawa through Washington (Washington 2255) conveying U.A.R. agreement to immediate re-establishment of diplomatic relations, please request Canadians to inform their Ambassador Cairo as follows:

- A. Australian Government agrees to immediate re-establishment of diplomatic relations and to re-opening of Australian Legation in Cairo.
- B. Australian Government concurs in proposed press statement which we shall issue Monday 19th October.
- C. Australian Government does not wish to suggest immediate re-opening of Legation. Precise date will need further consideration by us. In answer to question: we shall say Legation will be opened at date to be determined.

2. London: Please inform Foreign Office.

A/Min. & Dept., External Affairs(214/10/1)  
P.M.'s.

Cost - £7.2.0.

19th October, 1959.

SECRET

MCT



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

AH:ABJ.

O.13664.

TO:

Sent: 16th October, 1959.  
1459.

(Transmitted via leased channel)

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.....1289.

REPEATED:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....371.

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK....597 (For Plimsoll only)

SECRET.

For Minister from Secretary.

Relations with U.A.R. Your M.57, New York's 715 to you.

We have still received no further official reaction from Cairo.

2. We have learned on strictly personal basis (please safeguard) that Nasser's closest advisers in Presidency and Deputy Foreign Minister were encouraging about prospects, though Fawzi was discouraging in informal talk. Fawzi's attitude may have indicated only that he did not wish to get his fingers burnt by taking initiative in matter to be decided by Nasser himself.

3. Even before Loutfi's approach to Plimsoll I had it in mind to suggest to you that in view of time elapsed without progress in Cairo, it would be a pity for you to leave United States without at least sounding Fawzi out - especially since your previous discussions with him may well have influenced U.A.R. (e.g. to desegregate, repeal Proclamation 5B, remove visa restrictions, release Anzac Memorial). Now that Fawzi has taken initiative, I see every reason for meeting him and doing so at your convenience. You would agree, I think, that it would seem inadvisable for you to volunteer reference to Canadian Ambassador's informal approach in Cairo.

For Ottawa.

4. Please do not mention paragraph 2 to Canadians.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'S.

19th October, 1959.

SECRET



CONFIDENTIAL

## INWARD CABLEGRAM



I. 18405.

Dated: 12th October, 1959.  
1940.Rec'd: 13th October, 1959.  
1125.

CW:MP

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.UN 943. CONFIDENTIALAddressed Washington 715 (for Mr. Casey), repeated  
Canberra and Ottawa 65.RELATIONS WITH U.A.R.

Loutfi approached me this morning saying that Fawzi would like to arrange a meeting with Mr. Casey. When told Mr. Casey had gone to Washington, Loutfi suggested they might meet when Mr. Casey was in New York again before leaving the United States. As far as I could make out Fawzi did not have anything specific to propose or agree to but Loutfi is possibly not fully in the picture.

Plinsoll.

A/MIN.&DEPT. E.A.  
P.M's

13th October, 1959.

CONFIDENTIAL

mit



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

**SECRET**

MM/C/JS

I. 17897

Dated: 6th October, 1959.

2015

Reed: 7th October, 1959.

1149

(Via Leased Channel)

FROM:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.



UN890. SECRET.

Repeated Ottawa 58.

Tange from Casey M. 57.

Reference your telegram 484 of September 12th about U.A.R. in assumed absence of any further developments in this matter, I will not make contact with Fawzi in New York. I go to Washington October 11th prior to Antarctic Conference.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s.

7th October, 1959.

mt

mt



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

:HC

0.11963

Sent: 12th September, 1959.  
0930

TO:

(via leased channel)

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK. 484

REPEATED:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA. 323.



SECRET.

For Minister from Tange.

Relations with U...R. Our 483.

We have no indication that Fawzi is aware of Canadian Ambassador's exploratory approach and nature of that approach was such that it would seem inadvisable for you to mention it. In fact I feel that it might be better to defer any substantive discussions with Fawzi until we have some indication of Nasser's reaction.

---

A/MIN. DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s.

14th September, 1959.

mt



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SECRET

INWARD CABLEGRAM

AB:

I.18201

Dated: 9th October, 1959  
1730

Rec'd: 10th October, 1959  
0913

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA

407

SECRET

PRIORITY



Addressed Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
New York 89, repeated Canberra.

For the Minister

U.A.R. Relations.

Reference Australian Mission to the United Nations  
890 (M57) of 6th October.

External here are still awaiting report from Smith  
on U.A.R. attitude in relation to resumption with Australia  
but he has reported that decision to restore relations with  
United Kingdom has definitely been taken by U.A.R. authorities.  
It is understood relations would be established some time  
this Autumn and probably at Charge d'Affaires level in first  
instance.

Cawthorn.

A/Min Dept. E.A.  
(214/10/1)  
F.M.'S

10th October, 1959,

SECRET

mt



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

SECRET

CW:EMW

I.13663/64/65

Sent: 4th August, 1959.  
2025  
Rec'd: 5th August, 1959.  
1438

FROM: (via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.



293. SECRET. PRIORITY.

Repeated Washington 432 London Saving 46.

Relations with U.A.R.

Further our telegram 286. Smith reported 3rd August he was unable to see Nasser as planned due to latter's indisposition but instead saw Ali Sabri with whom, after a long talk on Iraq and other subjects, he raised the question of U.A.R. - Australian relations.

2. He indicated Australia might be in a receptive mood to a suggestion for resumption of diplomatic relations but stressed that at this stage he, Smith, was merely exploring the question informally.

3. Ali Sabri's reaction was most encouraging and said he too thought that resumption of relations with Australia would now also be appropriate. He would have to discuss the matter with Nasser but had no reason to think the President's reaction would be other than favourable as this was in line with U.A.R. general direction of policy.

4. Ali Sabri did not think the U.A.R. could at this time establish a mission in Canberra but Smith assured him this should not prevent resumption of relations.

5. Smith's telegram concluded with the comment that Ali Sabri was in a particularly serene and benevolent mood towards the world in general and this augured well for the matter in hand.

6. The Canadian High Commissioner will be receiving full text of Smith's message.

7. Smith has now reported that "Al Ahram" carried the following four line item on front page on August 3rd: "Australia asks for resumption of diplomatic relations with the U.A.R. Request was submitted by Canadian Ambassador who is in charge of Australian interests in the U.A.R. Nothing has yet been decided."

8. Smith told Reuter, U.P. and A.P. correspondents that "Al Ahram" story was not true and offered no further comment. Reuters and U.P. said they would not report the story but the A.P. stringer in charge of the office

SECRET

mt



## INWARD CABLEGRAM SECRET

- 2 -

I.13663/64/65

at present is an Egyptian and he may report the story and Smith's denial.

9. The Canadian Embassy subsequently saw in a minor French language paper "Journal d'Egypte", the following story datelined London, 2nd August:

"The British review "Scotsman" reports that Australia has indicated its desire to resume diplomatic relations with the U.A.R. The notification was made through the intermediary of the Canadian Government. This step was taken after consultation with the British Government. They are more and more convinced in responsible British circles that it would be better for Australia to negotiate at the earliest with the U.A.R. for resumption of diplomatic relations." (Our translation).

10. Smith thought the foregoing may have inspired the "Al Ahram" story particularly since his visit to Koubra Palace on Sunday was reported as a matter of routine in all Cairo papers.

11. Today Smith spoke with Ali Sabri who assured him he did not know how this regrettable leak occurred but will find out. Ali Sabri agreed it was appropriate for Smith to continue to deny the story and also that the leak should not interfere with favourable consideration of the informal Canadian fellers.

12. Later today Smith was informed by the diplomatic editor of "Al Ahram" that he had received the "Al Ahram" story from London and understood it came from the United Kingdom Foreign Office.

13. Smith considers that this seems to clear Ali Sabri's office of any suspicion of leaking a story which could embarrass Australia. He thought you would wish to know this.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

5th August, 1959.

SECRET

KH



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

**SECRET**

ABJ:JT

I.13528

Dated: 31st July, 1959.

1755

Rec'd: 2nd August, 1959.

0910



(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

286. SECRET.

Relations with U.A.R.

Further to my 262 of 20th July. Robertson informs me Smith who has returned from Baghdad, has outlined approach he intends to make. He agrees most promising course is to explore question with Nasser, himself, while seeing latter for other purposes. In view of his recent return from Iraq he anticipates no difficulty in obtaining interview with him in near future for "General Tour D'Horizon" which should afford suitable occasion for "informal exploration of U.A.R. Australian relations".

..Cawthorn.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S.

2nd August, 1959.

**SECRET**

✓  
24



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

CW

I.13293

Dated: 29th July, 1959.

1500

Rec'd: 30th July, 1959.

0915

(Transmitted via leased channel)



FROM:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

UN538. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Washington for information, Ottawa 11  
29th July, 1959.

I paid formal call this morning on Loutfi  
(U.A.R. Permanent Representative). Interview was very  
cordial but neither of us referred to question of resuming  
relations between Australia and U.A.R. Report by bag.

Plimsoll.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S

30th July, 1959.

KH



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.** **CONFIDENTIAL**

AH:

0.9629

Sent: 25th July, 1959.  
1712  
(Via leased channel)



TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

226. CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

Your 268.

Any necessary authority will be cabled Monday. We understand that Canadians will not require formal exchange of full powers.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. I/C A.A.E.C.  
CHAIRMAN A.A.E.C.  
P.M.'S DEPT.  
P.M.'S

27th July, 1959.



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
~~AMENDED COPY~~

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.12944

SHA/ENM

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

Sent: 23rd July, 1959. 1510

Rec'd: 24th July, 1959. 0915

(via leased channel)



267 SECRET. PRIORITY.

Your 222. U.A.R.

1. I discussed with Glazebrook this morning on lines of your telegram. He said he had thought of using formula in your paragraph 1 but had hesitated to do so without reference to us as he felt that it would tend to confirm that there was some substance in the report. He will now give non-committal reply to effect that as correspondence between us and Canada in latter's capacity as protecting power is privileged, any enquiries about it which French wish to make should be addressed to Australian Government.

2. Glazebrook said that French Counsellor, who has reputation here of being very active in picking up information, had given no indication of source of "report" but had said that his enquiry was "personal".

3. Reference your paragraph 3. Glazebrook said that they were equally anxious to preserve secrecy and that all papers on the subject were marked "Canadian eyes only". He canvassed possibility of leakage in New York which I discounted in view of last sentence of your 213.

Cawthorn.

MIN. & DEPT. L.A.  
P.M.'s

x Amended Copy  
24th July, 1959.

SECRET



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

SHA/ENM

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

Sent: 23rd July, 1959.

1510

Rec'd: 24th July, 1959.

0915

(via leased channel)

267 SECRET.PRIORITY.

Your 222. U.A.R.

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Cawthorn.

MIN. & DEPT. L.A.  
P.M.'s

24th July, 1959.

SECRET

KH



SECRET

## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

HC:HP

0.9526  
Sent: 23rd July, 1959.  
1616

(Via leased channel)

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.222. SECRET.Your 265 - U.A.R.

We would have thought that the Canadian Government, when receiving an enquiry relating to activities on behalf of the Australian Government, might well adopt the formula of saying that the only Government which could answer such enquiries is the Australian Government itself.

2. We would definitely prefer not to confirm to the French that we are seeking a resumption (although we could later decide to do so).

3. Please tactfully convey to Canadian Department that we have our own reasons for wanting everything possible done to avoid press leakages on this subject.

Min. & Dept. External Affairs.  
P.M.'s.

24th July, 1959.

SECRET



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

I. 12866.

Dated: 22nd July, 1959.  
1640.  
Rec'd: 23rd July, 1959.  
0854.

SHA:MP

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

265. SECRET IMMEDIATE

AUSTRALIAN - U.A.R. RELATIONS

1. Glazebrook of External Affairs informs me that French Embassy this morning sought from him confirmation of report that Australia had made approach for resumption of diplomatic relations with U.A.R. through Canada as protecting power. Glazebrook was able truthfully to deny any personal knowledge but subsequently ascertained facts from division concerned and has asked me what follow up action should be taken. It is obvious that his Department feels that French should be informed of facts. I said that I would consult you. Neither he nor I can account for leakage.

2. In circumstances best course would seem for you to inform French in Canberra and let me know terms in which this has been done so that I can pass it on to Glazebrook by tomorrow morning. If this suggestion not acceptable, request advice as to what Canadians should tell the French.

....Cawthorn.

MIN.&DEPT. E.A.  
P.M's

23rd July, 1959.

SECRET



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM



JT:JT

I.12769

Dated: 20th July, 1959.

1705

Rec'd: 21st July, 1959.  
0830

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

2712. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Ottawa 24.

From External.

Your 1989. Relations with U.A.R.

I have informed C.R.O. and Foreign Office of position. Foreign Office is now a little more optimistic about future of their own relations. Egyptians have let it be known that they would welcome United Kingdom participation in Damascus Trade Fair (for which the United Kingdom is making urgent ad hoc arrangements) and that they may be prepared to consider some sort of Charge d'Affaires status for Crowe after his return to Cairo from London.

..Shann.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S.

-----  
21st July, 1959.

KH



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

LO

O.9356

Dated: 18th July, 1959  
1256

TO:

\*(Transmitted via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA. 218 \*

REPEATED:-

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON. (For External) 1989

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON. 255 \*

Australian High Commission,  
WELLINGTON. SAV. 40

Australian High Commission,  
NEW DELHI. SAV. 56

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK. SAV. 51



SECRET.

Relations with United Arab Republic.

Our approach to question of restoration of our diplomatic representation in Cairo, as outlined in our telegrams 32 of 10th February and 174 of 9th June has been modified in the light of the developing situation. Minister has decided that we should aim at re-opening our mission in Cairo after United Arab Republic has agreed to release Anzac memorial. At Ministerial level United Kingdom would welcome such initiative by us.

2. Please request Canadian authorities to pass our decision to their Ambassador, Cairo, requesting latter to take up matter at his discretion, preferably with Nasser. He should not, of course, commit us to an Australian request to reopen our mission. He could perhaps initiate discussion on basis of his interview of 11th May with Nasser (your telegram 177) or on lines envisaged by him in final paragraph of his telegram of 24th February to Ottawa. In this regard, Ambassador has discretion to say either:-

- (a) He has reason personally to believe that the Australian Government is favourably disposed towards restoration of diplomatic representation in Cairo, or;
- (b) He would recommend restoration to Australian Government and has reason to believe latter is ready to accept such recommendation.

KH



# OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

-2- 0.9356

3. In his approach, Ambassador is requested to bear in mind:-

- (a) Present Australian attitude is predicated on United Arab Republic agreement to release Anzac memorial.
- (b) Approach will need to be of such a kind as to safeguard against situation in which United Arab Republic would claim publicly (either now or at time of restoration of mission) that Australia had formally requested permission to return to Cairo. In such situation (which we would hope to avoid) Australian Government must be able to deny having made any such formal request. We assume, however, that there will be no difficulty in obtaining United Arab Republic agreement at the appropriate time to suitable form of words in press release basing restoration of mission on mutual interest and desire.
- (c) Our thought is to restore status quo, that is, representation at legation level in first instance, leaving open for the time being the question of whether or not we should seek to raise it to Embassy status.
- (d) While we should welcome a United Arab Republic mission in Australia we should not require it as a condition of our returning to Cairo.

4. Please express our appreciation for Canadian Ambassador's handling of situation up to now and for his helpful comments.

5. For London. Please inform United Kingdom authorities of above. Their latest attitude (paragraph 1 above) was made known to us by their High Commission subsequent to your 2080. We are informing High Commission here also.

6. For Wellington. You may inform New Zealand authorities of substance of paragraphs 1 and 2 above, for their own information only.

7. For New Delhi. At your discretion you may inform appropriate Indian authorities for substance of paragraphs 1 and 2 above, omitting reference to consultation with United Kingdom and emphasising that it is for their own strictly confidential information only.

8. For Washington and New York. For your own information only at this stage.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

Cost £24.13.0  
20th July, 1959



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM



.../LO

I.11471

Dated: 29th June, 1959

1600

Rec'd: 30th June, 1959

1036

FROM:

(via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

236 CONFIDENTIAL.

The following has been received from Canadian Embassy,  
Cairo, begins:-

For Tange from Plimscoll.

I think Gardner should stay in Cairo at least until the end of the year irrespective of whether we resume relations with the United Arab Republic in the meantime. Work here requires an officer with political experience. Moreover, if we resume Gardner's contacts and background knowledge would be needed. With Smith's agreement now that dissequestration work is tailing off Gardner has started to prepare background files and to collect basic documents for use of our Mission when it returns.

2. I would favour Australia resuming relations here as soon as we can without waiting for the United Kingdom, providing the United Kingdom has no strong objections. It is in the interests of all of us to spread range of contacts of the United Arab Republic with the non-Communist world. As to the method of making approach to the United Arab Republic, the best course seems to be that proposed by Arnold Smith in paragraph 13 of his telegram 132 to Ottawa of February 24th. He would approach Nasser personally rather than Ministers. We cannot be sure of Nasser's response, but there is a good chance he will raise no difficulties. Gardner has had no unpleasant treatment from Egyptians since he arrived.

3. I shall write you further. Arnold Smith has been most helpful to Gardner.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s

30th June, 1959

CONFIDENTIAL



OUTWARD CABLE ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CW

0.7899

Sent: 16th June, 1959.

TO:

Australian High Commission,

LONDON.



1568. CONFIDENTIAL.

For Harrison from Casey.

Your telegram 1504. Kurdiukov. Queen's approval for Kurdiukov has been obtained and we shall inform Russian Charge d'Affaires here on Wednesday June 17th that Government agrees to appointment. As request for agreement originated with Soviet Embassy, London, I should be glad if you would inform that Embassy.

2. Please have United Kingdom advised for their information of action taken.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1500/1/2/32)  
P.M'S DEPT.  
P.M'S

Cost £4/7/0

17th June, 1959.



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

I. 10310/11.

Dated: 11th June, 1959.

1730.

Rec'd: 12th June, 1959.

1544.

SHA:MP

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.212. SECRET

Washington for information, London Saving 28.

Your 174.

AUSTRALIAN RELATIONS WITH U.A.R.

1. I passed copy of paragraphs 1 to 8 of your telegram yesterday to Robertson and discussed it with him today. When I remarked at the outset that while we have been very fully informed of Mr. Smith's views we had had no indication as to how far his Department was in agreement. Robertson said "the fact is that at the moment our Middle East Division here is very weak and as in Smith we have such an excellent man on the spot you can take it that we so far have gone along with his views".

2. He then made the following points:-

(A) he appreciated the clarity with which our views were presented,

(B) he was inclined to think that we were still tending to "argue on the past record" whereas United Kingdom/U.A.R. relations were revolving around current United Kingdom policy in the Middle East or rather Egypt's suspicions of it, particularly in relation to Iraq. He thought that Egypt could hardly be influenced by this aspect in relation to Australia.

(C) He wondered whether our desire to keep in step with the United Kingdom did not provide the U.A.R. with a reason for not differentiating in their treatment of us. He said that, however, it was a fact that desequestration came sooner for Australia (January 1958) than for United Kingdom (April 1959).

(D) He felt that paragraph 8(i) of your telegram implied something more categorical as regards the United Kingdom view than paragraph 5 of Smith's telegram 32 of 24th February warranted. Mr. Smith was merely expressing his own appreciation of the United Kingdom attitude and was not speaking from certainty in knowledge.

SECRET

KH



SECRET

INWARD CABLEGRAM

I.10310/11

3. I pointed out with regard to paragraph 2(b) above that the question of the memorial was very much a current one and not one of the "past record" and also reminded him of last sentences of paragraphs 4 and 7 of your telegram. He said that he fully appreciated that the memorial question was an important and current issue and settlement of this must be awaited.

4. When I tried to ascertain his views as to whether he thought it would be to the general advantage for Australia to resume relations with the U.A.R. before the United Kingdom did if this proved possible, he said that he thought that this was a matter that we should discuss in the first instance with the United Kingdom.

5. He agreed to send a copy of the telegram to Mr. Smith "for information" with an account of our conversation and an expression of hope that as a result of discussions in London a further communication would follow.

6. With reference to 5 above it was clear to me that his initial hesitancy about sending the telegram on to Smith arose from the first sentence of paragraph 7 thereof (see paragraph 2(b) above).

Cawthorn.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s DEPT.  
P.M.'s.

12th June, 1959.

SECRET



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

MMcJT:

I.10297

Dated: 11th June, 1959.

1725

Rec'd: 12th June, 1959.

0830

FROM:

Australian High Commission  
LONDON.

2080. SECRET.

From External.

Your 1448. Relations with U.A.R.

I discussed the matter this morning with Beith (Levant Department Foreign Office). There are no present signs of the resumption of diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and the U.A.R. Indeed some of the personnel recruited by the Foreign Office against this possibility have been paid off or sent to other jobs. The question of United Kingdom claims on Egypt and the resumption of diplomatic relations has always been kept separate and when the claims agreement was signed in rather a hurry on the urging of Black, no discussions had taken place with the Egyptians on diplomatic relations. The British, however, let it be known that they would like to reopen the Embassy in Cairo. The Egyptians replied firmly in the negative saying that they could not accept a British diplomatic mission for the time being. The Foreign Office does not feel that Egyptian judgment in this regard has been affected by other matters such as the British undertaking to deliver arms to Iraq to which Nasser reacted quite well. The Egyptians attitude seems to be dictated by local political considerations.

2. The difficulties which Crowe has experienced were not too bad being confined mainly to minor details such as getting a telephone and so on. The Egyptians as you know even agreed to the setting up in Cairo of the British Property Commission which is not permitted to work in the former Embassy premises. There are four members of the Commission in addition to Crowe who are permitted five United Kingdom based secretaries and five locally engaged staff. The senior staff have same quasi diplomatic privileges.

3. There appears to have been less damage to important British property than feared. In the case of unilever the business was well managed and no damage took place. Shell is not yet in a position to report on the claims they might make.

4. There the matter rests for the moment. The Egyptians do not show any signs of allowing the conversion of the Commission into an Embassy. They have been asked to do so and they know British wishes in this regard. The Foreign Office is anxious to get back as soon as is reasonably possible but not to the point of behaving in an undignified way. They would obviously like to have us there in due course, but can see no reason why the Egyptians should favour us in this regard over the United Kingdom.

5. I asked why the British view would be in the hypothetical case that we were to take steps through the Canadians to ascertain the Egyptian Government views and they did in fact adopt a co-operative attitude. Beith confirmed that at the official level

SECRET

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SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

there would not seem to be any objection to a resumption by Australia of diplomatic relations before the United Kingdom, but it was a question which had possible political angles of "Australia got in first" kind which led the United Kingdom to suggest consultation before we actually took action to reopen the Legation. I understood the United Kingdom High Commissioner's office has already informed you about this.

6. Incidentally he shares your view (paragraph 5) about the acceptability of U.A.R. retaliation.

Shann.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.

P.M'S.

12th June, 1959.

SECRET



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

0.7528

CW:

Sent: 9th June, 1959.  
1100

(x Transmitted via leased channel)

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....174 x

REPEATED

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.737 x

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.....1448 (For External)

Australian High Commission,  
WELLINGTON.SAV.30

Australian Embassy,  
PARIS.....SAV.30

Australian Embassy,  
ROME.....SAV.16

Australian Legation,  
TELAVIV....SAV.6

Australian High Commission,  
NEW DELHI..SAV.40

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK...SAV.34 x



SECRET.

Australian Relations with U.A.R. - Your 177.

We were glad to receive Mr. Smith's report of his interview with Nasser. Mr. Smith correctly interpreted our present feelings by not entering into general discussion of Australian-U.A.R. relations during his interview with the President.

2. However, Mr. Smith should know that the comments he sent previously were greatly appreciated and that this question is very much in the Minister's mind and constantly under Departmental review. But before giving our reactions to Mr. Smith's views, as set out in his telegram 132 of 24th February, we wished -

- (a) to await developments on the various matters of direct Australian-U.A.R. concern (Proclamation 58 A.N.F.A.C. Memorial, etc.) and,
- (b) to observe the progress made by the United Kingdom in relation to its Financial Agreement with the U.A.R. and in particular to see what treatment was accorded to Mr. Crowe's Mission by the Egyptians.

SECRET

*Day*



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

0.7528

3. Even now our assessment is only preliminary. Briefly, we feel that in regard to (a) things have been moving along not unsatisfactorily but slowly and in a way which suggests that U.A.R. are not disposed to accord us any better treatment than that accorded to United Kingdom. Further clarification of U.A.R. attitude should be provided by U.A.R. handling of our own and New Zealand's recent request regarding the removal of the A.N.Z.A.C. Memorial - a matter of importance to us. On the other hand, we feel that we ourselves have made some conciliatory gestures. Some of these have admittedly been on relatively minor matters of appointments to United Nations bodies and so on. But others have been more substantial - for instance we have waived our claim that the U.A.R. restore the A.N.Z.A.C. Memorial and war graves and our objection to payment of the desquestration fee. In regard to (b), U.A.R. treatment of Mr. Crowe appears to have been as grudging as possible on the formal level though in practice he now seems to have minimal facilities to carry out his work in a restricted field. We have no evidence of any U.A.R. inclination to allow Mr. Crowe's Mission to convert itself either in function or in name into an Embassy, as it was hoped it might.

4. Such cool U.A.R. behaviour towards the United Kingdom and towards ourselves with at best no differentiation seems to us to offer little evidence of any U.A.R. desire to "re-establish friendly relations" with us. We are of course, not unmindful that the advantages we anticipate from resumption in Cairo are somewhat greater than those which the U.A.R. might expect for itself in agreeing to resumption. In consequence we are quite prepared to look for opportunities for conciliatory gestures in order to create a better atmosphere, but not to the extent of putting ourselves in a humiliating position or appearing as a supplicant.

5. In this connection we cannot in any way accept the view, as expressed to Mr. Smith by a responsible U.A.R. official, that U.A.R. "retaliation" against Australia can be justified on the ground of the position Australia adopted in the United Nations. We are aware that this view seems to be generally held by U.A.R. officials. However, to us it seems indefensible that there should be retaliation against a country merely because of the way in which it voted in a minority in a United Nations deliberative body. This is especially so in our case since we have honoured every decision taken by the United Nations even when we opposed the decision at the deliberative stage.

6. We are similarly unable to accept the view put by Fawzi to Mr. Casey in New York on 16th October, 1956, that the actions taken against Australians by Egypt and U.A.R. were justified because "in the minds of Egyptians the mission of Mr. Menzies to Cairo in 1956 had tended to identify Australia with the tripartite military action".

7. It might be useful to Mr. Smith to have in mind the points in paragraphs 5 and 6 and at his discretion to use them as his understanding of Australian

SECRET



SECRET

## OUTWARD-CABLEGRAM.

O.7528

feelings not in any direct demarche but in response to a repetition of the Egyptian viewpoint. He will observe from paragraph 5 above that we are not spelling for an argument.

8. We have noted carefully the further points which Mr. Smith has put to us:

- (i) "that the United Kingdom itself would greatly value the presence (in Cairo) of an Australian diplomatic mission"., and
- (ii) that such Australian action would be helpful in the context of Western relations with the U.A.R. and the Arab world and of U.A.R./Arab connections with Communism.

Regarding (i), we should point out that the United Kingdom has not so far itself expressed any view to us in this sense (though we do understand that the United Kingdom would not wish to try to dissuade us from returning to Cairo before they do, should we so decide). In regard to point (ii) above, we would certainly hope that the Australian Mission in Cairo, when re-established, would make its contribution in this field, though we do feel that the benefit to the West of Australia's re-establishment sooner rather than later must be seen in the perspective of Australia's minor role in Middle Eastern affairs compared with the United States, the United Kingdom and some other Western countries.

FOR LONDON.

9. Minister has requested that the above should be shown to the Prime Minister. Thereafter please discuss with appropriate United Kingdom authorities.

FOR OTTAWA.

10. Glad if you would discuss the above with the Canadian authorities and let us have their reactions.

FOR WASHINGTON.

11. Above is for your information only for the time being.

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MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S DEPT.  
P.M.'S

9th June, 1959.

SECRET



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

INWARD CABLEGRAM<sup>975</sup>

PPG

Dated: 22nd May, 1959  
1830

Rec'd: 23rd May, 1959  
1455  
(Via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

177 SECRET.

Your 118.

Australian Relations with the U.S.R.

(1) Canadian Ambassador reports following reaction to the Minister's press statement:

"During my interview with President Nasser on May 11th I took the opportunity to leave with him copy of Mr. Casey's press statement. After reading the statement through the President referred to Mr. Casey's wartime associations with the Mideast and his sympathetic knowledge of the problems and life of the area.

I did not, however, feel it wise to take advantage of this favourable opening to get into any discussion with the President about the general subject of Australia-U.S.R. relations in view of the Australian cabinet decision not to resume diplomatic relations before the United Kingdom (your telegram. C82 February 11th) and absence of comments on my telegram 132 February 24th.

Copies of Australian press statement have also been left with the foreign interests section of Foreign Ministry".

(2) Smith's telegram 132 of 24th February was sent under cover our memorandum No. 134 of 3rd March.

MIN. & DEPT. D.A.  
P.M.'S. DEPT.  
P.M.'S.

24th May, 1959.



SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
INWARD CABLEGRAM.

SECRET

HP:HC

I.3847/8/9

Dated: 3rd March, 1959. 1755  
Rec'd: 4th March, 1959. 1258



FROM:

(via leased channel)

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

59. SECRET.

Repeated London (for External) Savingsgram 7 and  
Austunat New York Savingsgram 1.

Australian - U.A.R. relations.

The following is the text of a telegram sent from Cairo on 27th February to you via bag from London. In view of recent developments in U.A.R./United Kingdom relations we thought it desirable that you receive this information as soon as possible. We assume you have already received from London Cairo's 132 referred to in paragraph 3, a copy of which is also being sent under cover of our memorandum 134.

Australian - U.A.R. relations dated February 26, I saw Deputy Foreign Minister Zulficar Sabri again on Tuesday February 24. Sabri clearly does not want to recommend repeal of proclamation 5B until completion of current negotiations with United Kingdom. However he assured me that once settlement with United Kingdom has been reached repeal of proclamation 5B would in fact follow along.

2. Sabri indicated however that there might be a few weeks delay in dealing with 5B through competition for priority of attention on President's desk. He remarked that there was not same urgent material interest from U.A.R. point of view in reaching a settlement with Australia as there was with United Kingdom. In the case of United Kingdom an important motive had been to secure release of the blocked sterling. In the case of Australia the real advantages were psychological. But (Zulficar said) I should recognize that there were psychological hurdles and obstacles as well.

3. Zulficar Sabri recognized the value of the point I had made about desirability of clearing away the road blocks of the past and moving in direction of normal relations. But he went on to indicate that he expected there would be an appreciable lapse of time yet before there was resumption of diplomatic relations between United Kingdom and U.A.R. The implications of this for prospect of a resumption of Australian - U.A.R. diplomatic relations, if U.A.R. continue to regard a settlement with Australia as a corollary to settlement with United Kingdom, are obvious.

4. I did not try to elucidate Sabri's views either on just how much time he expected to lapse before United Kingdom - U.A.R. diplomatic relations were established, nor on his reasons

SECRET

*free*

...2/.



## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I.8847/8/9

for that expectation. It seemed unwise for anyone to pursue this train just at the present sensitive stage in Eugene Black's negotiations to bring United Kingdom - U.A.R. financial agreement to the point of signature. Nor did I think it wise yesterday to get into any real discussion with Zulficar Sabri's thinking on diplomatic relations with Australia, pending Australian comments on my reference telegram.

5. While I think therefore that providing Eugene Black obtains a successful conclusion to United Kingdom - U.A.R. financial negotiations, we for our part can probably expect within a few weeks to get repeal of proclamation 5B, nevertheless we cannot at this stage be confident of bringing about any early resumption of diplomatic relations even though I believe this is desirable for both sides.

6. With reference to my paragraph 1 above, action on Qantas spares may still be desirable in order to hasten repeal of proclamation 5B. For example there could be an appreciable administrative delay between signature of United Kingdom agreement and settlement of the indemnity by B.O.A.C. (my telegram 117 of February 18th. Any consequential delay in repeal of proclamation 5B could be eliminated if Qantas representative here was able to meet either of the two U.A.R. conditions on spares, by giving U.A.R. authorities either:

- (a) let of guarantee; or
- (b) undertaking not to request release of spares until settlement of B.O.A.C. indemnity.

It would be regrettable to have repeal of proclamation 5B delayed for purely technical reasons. Gardner and I have discussed the question of Qantas spares with Qantas assistant manager from London who is in Cairo. He indicated that he believed Qantas executive would be glad to cooperate in obtaining repeal of proclamation 5B. If Qantas executive does consider that either of the above suggestions is practicable, perhaps instructions could be sent as soon as possible to the Qantas representative here so that he could take action immediately if, but only if, this should in fact seem to us necessary to expedite repeal of proclamation 5B. These instructions could be sent through our cypher if necessary.

Arnold Smith.

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MIN. DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s. DEPT.  
P.M.'s.

4th March, 1959.

SECRET



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

T. 2754

JH

Dated: 13th February, 1959  
1925  
Rec'd: 14th February, 1959  
0900

From:

The Australian High Commission,  
LONDON



572. SECRET

Repeated - Ottawa 3  
New York Savingram  
Washington

From External.

Your 342. Relations with Egypt.

I discussed matter with Sir Roger Stevens,  
Foreign Office, to-day. He commented as follows:-

- (a) United Kingdom is at present awaiting letter from Kaissouny addressed to it and to Black regarding Smouha properties. United Kingdom attitude to problem will depend on what is in letter but Stevens did not think Smouha question would be sticking point. He said they would probably not want to make it a sticking point even if it involved greater United Kingdom financial commitment to (8).
- (b) In meantime, they had received message from Crowe who expects difficulties with Egypt over his privileges and immunities especially as Egypt has to compromise on Smouha question. Crowe has suggested that United Kingdom should make settlement of the question of privileges and immunities a condition precedent to signing of agreement. Stevens said that United Kingdom Government had not yet decided whether to adopt Crowe's suggestion.
- (c) Stevens thinks that United Kingdom will probably have to accept in initial stages an ad hoc mission in Cairo possibly with or possibly without question of immunities being settled before signature. He said mission would probably occupy British Embassy which might however still be under Swiss flag.
- (d) If agreement on outstanding financial questions seems likely, United Kingdom will send a high-power delegation back to Egypt. If this occurs, we can assume signature is imminent.

SECRET

file  
COPY Mr. LAWLER.



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

I.2754

**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

- (e) Stevens expects Egypt will be difficult over re-establishment of Mission on Charge level i.e. resumption of diplomatic relations. He found it hard to estimate time factor between the ad hoc mission and appointment of Charge.
- (f) He mentioned that Egypt was suspicious that United Kingdom did not want an agreement and had said so in a letter to Black. Egyptians based their view on the fact that the day before initialling United Kingdom had raised the question of privileges of mission and the day before reply on privileges was due, they raised Smouha question.

————— (\* Corrupt group)

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s. Dept.  
P.M.'s.

14th February, 1959

SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

**SECRET**

BS

O.1909

Dated : 11th February, 1959  
1010

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
W E L L I N G T O N

39. SECRET

ANZAC MEMORIAL PORT SAID

For the strictly confidential information of New Zealand Government, Cabinet has agreed in principle to resumption of relations with Egypt (resumption would be with U.A.R.) subject to -

- (a) our not resuming before the United Kingdom do so themselves
- (b) settlement of outstanding issues on following basis:
  - (i) Proclamation 5B (under which Australians suffer legal, financial and commercial disabilities) to be repealed, but making best arrangements obtainable with respect to 10% charge placed on disesteated Australian assets which charge we have complained about.
  - (ii) Existing visa restrictions to be removed, and
  - (iii) Subject to New Zealand Government concurring Anzac Memorial to be removed from Egypt on best terms we can arrange.

2. U.A.R. Foreign Minister has answered our requests that Egypt restore Memorial by telling Canadian Ambassador (who is responsible for Australian interests) that although U.A.R. regretted damage it could accept no responsibility for it "since it arose from conditions created by external aggression". He added that hence question of U.A.R. meeting cost of restoration was quite out of question. He stated that U.A.R. would nevertheless be very ready to examine any proposals made by Australian and New Zealand Governments and was sure that if both sides were practical and looked to future rather than unhappy past question could be settled in a "dignified" manner.

3. National Secretary of R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. has informed us that Australian and New Zealand ex-servicemens associations favour removal from Egypt and re-erection at Albany, Western Australia (whence first Anzac contingent sailed in First World War). National Secretary said he understood New Zealand R.S.A. had informed their Government.

4. It appears to us that removal of the memorial from Egypt and re-erection elsewhere is only feasible course.

**SECRET**



## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

071909

If re-erected in Egypt, (always assuming that Egypt would agree which is by no means certain) it would always be subject to mob insult in recurring Middle East crises. The indications are that Egypt would not object to removal but would not formally assist. Nevertheless it might be possible to secure some Egyptian assistance (e.g. labour) in context of "dignified" settlement required by U.N.R. Foreign Minister.

5. Please take matter up with New Zealand Government with object of securing agreement in principle to removal at Australian and New Zealand expense. Question of allocation of costs will have to be worked out later, but they will probably have to be met wholly or in large part by two Governments. Expert advice will be necessary to arrive at some firm estimate of cost involved. Memorial is badly damaged. If repair of remains is impracticable recasting will be required. We are enquiring whether original cast remains in existence.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s DEPT.  
P.M.

(Cost £12.17.0)  
11th February, 1959

SECRET



SECRET

## DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I.2572

MMC:BMW

Sent: 10th February, 1959.  
2205  
Rec'd: 11th February, 1959.  
1100

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

526. SECRET.

Repeated Savings Ottawa, New York, Washington.

From External.

Relations with Egypt. Your 342.

Latest information concerning prospects of signature of Anglo-Egyptian Agreement is contained in telegram 516 to Treasury and savingram 85.

2. C.R.O. advised us today that when Agreement was concluded there would be:-

- (a) Exchange of letters concerning establishment of United Kingdom Mission in Cairo with appropriate facilities to implement agreement
- (b) Establishment and such a mission and
- (c) Subsequently resumption of diplomatic relations initially at Charge de Affaires level.

3. In connection with (c) Fawzi had written to Lloyd agreeing that at time of signature of agreement United Kingdom might say publicly that diplomatic relations would be resumed "as soon as possible" but that no impression should be left that there was a casual relationship between conclusion of Agreement and resumption of diplomatic relations.

4. At the time the Ad Hoc United Kingdom Mission in Cairo was established the United Kingdom would be prepared to accept Ad Hoc U.K.R. Mission in London with same facilities and this possibility would be covered in proposed exchange of letters.

5. Our impression from C.R.O. (and also from Foreign Office) is that if compromise over Smouha Lands can be achieved agreement will be signed but it is not possible to assess likelihood of compromise on Lands question. Even if agreement is concluded Fawzi's expression "as soon as possible" and his wish to avoid casual relationship between agreement and resumption of diplomatic relations seems to us to indicate

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD<sup>2</sup>CABLEGRAM.**

that delays will occur in resumption. Egyptians have already indicated to United Kingdom that resumption of relations may well be conditional on resumption of United Kingdom-Saudi Arabian relations (to which Saudi Arabians will not agree unless United Kingdom compromises its position on Buraimi question). Should Anglo-Egyptian Agreement not be signed our feeling is that Anglo-Egyptian financial talks will have received such a setback that resumption of diplomatic relations will be long delayed.

6. Hope to get views of Sir Roger Stevens later this week.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s DEPT.  
P.M.'s

11th February, 1959.

SECRET



## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM. SECRET

BC:

O.1882

Dated: 10th February, 1959  
1630  
(Via leased channel)\*

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....32

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.....342

REPEATED (for information) NEW YORK#...50  
WASHINGTON#....129

SECRETRelations with Egypt.

Canadian Ambassador, Cairo, should be informed for his strictly confidential information that Cabinet has agreed in principle to resumption of relations with Egypt (resumption would be with U.A.R.) subject to -

- (a) our not resuming before the United Kingdom do so themselves;
- (b) settlement of outstanding issues on following basis:
  - (i) Proclamation 5B to be repealed, but making best arrangements obtainable with respect to desecration charge;
  - (ii) Removal of existing visa restrictions which in practise prevent Australians visiting Egypt except in transit or for limited business reasons;
  - (iii) ANZAC Memorial to be removed from Egypt on best terms we can arrange.

2. We should like Canadian Ambassador to bear the above decision in mind in future dealings with U.A.R. authorities. We would not want him, however, to relax his pressure on Egyptians for the total repeal of Proclamation 5B nor to abandon any discussions he may have been conducting or contemplating regarding desecration charge. He will appreciate that Cabinet decision requires us to do the best we can under paragraph 1(b) (i) as well as 1(b)(iii) above.

3. We should be grateful if Ambassador would now, unless he sees objections to this course, submit formal request for removal of abovementioned visa restrictions.

4. As regards ANZAC Memorial we should prefer to delay any further approach to the Egyptians until we have concluded discussion with New Zealand and interested servicemen's organ-

SECRET





## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM. SECRET

-2-

O.1882

izations) on the question of removal. The Egyptians should not be allowed however to assume that we have let up on this matter.

5. We should appreciate any comments Ambassador may care to make on above aspects.

FOR LONDON ONLY

6. While not wishing to run ahead of United Kingdom in resuming diplomatic relations, we would hope that our resumption will not be greatly delayed, and would appreciate fullest information on United Kingdom intentions on this matter.

7. On latter aspect we have experienced some difficulty in understanding precise United Kingdom position. In Savingram EX963/58 and telegram 246/59 you reported that United Kingdom were anxious to reestablish mission in Cairo and proposed immediately on conclusion of financial agreement to establish diplomatic mission under Charge d'Affaires to be succeeded by Ambassador few months later. This advice conflicts with that contained in C.R.O. telegram W.55, of 27th January, 1959, which states they merely wish to establish a "mission" with appropriate facilities in Cairo to implement agreement and are "content to leave resumption of diplomatic relations proper until later".

Ends.

MIN &amp; DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)

Cost: £24:14:0.  
11th February, 1959

P.M.'s DEPT.

P.M.'s

SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

EM:BMW

O.704

Sent: 16th January, 1959.  
1800

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.



135. CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

For External.

U.A.R.

We have received from Indian High Commission Note stating that "Government of India have agreed to request of Government of U.A.R. to perform Consular services on their behalf in Australia" and enquiring whether we "have any objection to performance of such functions".

2. We propose to state in reply that we have "no objection to their performance on consular services on behalf of U.A.R."

3. Our legal view is that this constitutes a positive step of recognition. Such a step is in conformity with our recent policy which has been to work towards more normal relations wherever possible. We anticipate that this concession may assist settlement of other outstanding issues.

4. Please inform United Kingdom authorities and invite any comments before 22nd January, when we would hope to reply to Indians.

-----  
MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s

(Cost £7.2.0)

19th January, 1959.

*free*

CONFIDENTIAL

*Copy MCT*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

INWARD CABLEGRAM. RESTRICTED

SDP

I:1104

Sent: 17th January, 1959.  
1435

FROM:

Rec'd: 18th January, 1959.  
0830

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

216. RESTRICTED.

From External.

U.A.R. Your 135.

Spoke to Hadow, Head Legal Department, Foreign Office on this subject. He said that from United Kingdom point of view there would be no political or other difficulties for them in our proceeding as suggested in your paragraph 2. They will be extending recognition to the U.A.R. themselves when the Anglo-Egyptian financial agreement is signed. They see advantage in the re-establishment of normal relations between Western countries and the U.A.R. Vallat (Legal Adviser) agreed that reply in the form proposed in your paragraph 2 would amount to recognition of the U.A.R.

2. Regarding Anglo-Egyptian negotiations (financial details of which have been cabled by Stone) Hadow said the agreement had been reached on the financial details and agreement initialled ad referendum. This had been concurred in by the Chancellor in absence out of London of the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary. It remained for political approval to be granted for signature. This will depend in part upon agreement by U.A.R. Government for acceptance of a diplomatic mission at Charge level with appropriate status, immunities, etc. The Foreign Office Representative with the Delegation in Cairo, has taken up formally this question and insisted that Consular representation in the absence of a Consular agreement would be unacceptable. No reply has yet been received from the U.A.R. Government.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. & DEPT. DEFENCE  
P.M.'s.

18th January, 1959.

RESTRICTED

met



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

EM:EMW

O.704

Sent: 16th January, 1959.  
1800



TO:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

135. CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

For External.

U.A.R.

We have received from Indian High Commission Note stating that "Government of India have agreed to request of Government of U.A.R. to perform Consular services on their behalf in Australia" and enquiring whether we "have any objection to performance of such functions".

2. We propose to state in reply that we have "no objection to their performance on consular services on behalf of U.A.R."

3. Our legal view is that this constitutes a positive step of recognition. Such a step is in conformity with our recent policy which has been to work towards more normal relations wherever possible. We anticipate that this concession may assist settlement of other outstanding issues.

4. Please inform United Kingdom authorities and invite any comments before 22nd January, when we would hope to reply to Indians.

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MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (214/10/1)  
P.M.'s

(Cost £7.2.0)  
19th January, 1959.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

met



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS **CONFIDENTIAL**  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

SDP

I. 516/517

Dated: 8th January, 1959.  
1800

Rec'd: 9th January, 1959.  
1645

(Via Leased Channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

9. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Austnat New York 1, London Savingram 1.

Your telegram 402, following is text of telegram received from the Canadian Ambassador, Cairo;

Begins:-

Australian Interests.

*Egypt relations*

Conversations which Gardner has had with Foreign Ministry officials as a follow-up on my discussion with Fawzi of December 8th (reported in our 387) quote indicates that our aide memoire should now be followed by a Note formally requesting the repeal of Proclamation 5B. I would appreciate the Australian Government's authority to submit this.

2. Regarding War Graves and Memorial, if the Australian Government, after studying report of my discussion with Fawzi, should decide to limit its requests to restoration of graves at its own expense or that of the Imperial War Graves Commission, and to taking back the remains of the Memorial, then these points could be included in same Note. In this case, I believe that all three requests would be favourably considered, and the way might be open to early resumption of diplomatic relations.

3. If Australian Government would not now agree to making the minimum requests outlined above, then it might be best to confine our note to a request for the repeal of Proclamation 5B, in the hope that the U.A.R. would consider it separately from the other two questions.

4. Regarding de-sequestration charges, I had in fact covered with Fawzi on December 8th all the points mentioned in your telegram C811 of December 12th. My view is that nothing will be achieved by reopening the question at this time. The French have accepted 10 percent, and I do not see how the U.A.R. could agree to a lower rate for Australia unless they were prepared to apply it also to the United Kingdom. But in that case they would presumably prefer to negotiate the rate with United Kingdom, where the stakes are considerably higher. If the United Kingdom should get a reduced rate, we would then request the U.A.R. to give Australians the same treatment. But I would suggest that the question be dropped for time being.

5. I would appreciate receiving early instructions. Personally, I hope that they might be along the lines of my paragraph 1 and 2. It seems to be that we are not likely

*file*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Copy MCT*



## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

I:516/517

to get anywhere by concentrating on questions of responsibility for the past, through insistence of who pays for what. The real point it seems to me is to do what we can to improve the prospects of a more satisfactory future; and for this purpose we should try to bring about the resumption of diplomatic relations.

6. As I have been indicating in a number of my political reports the growing power of the Communists in Iraq has created a situation in which a real improvement of U.A.R. relations with Western democracies is both more possible than it has been for the past two years, and extremely desirable, in our own interests as well as in those of the U.A.R. Failing such an improvement, we are faced with a possibility that the Communists might take over Iraq and that from that position of strength the U.S.S.R. might greatly strengthen its influence in Syria, Egypt, and Iran. In these circumstances the fundamental issues are therefore of very great importance and I am sure the Australian Government would wish to consider their particular detailed problems with the U.A.R. against this broader political background.

Ends.

In connection with paragraph 6 we hope to obtain from External Affairs recent political reports from Cairo.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1533/41/1)  
TREASURY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DEPT.  
TRADE (C-S-M)  
P.M's.

10th January, 1959.

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

HP:CM

0.15226

Sent: 5th December, 1958.  
1200  
(Transmitted via leased channel)

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.....844

REPEATED

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.....389 (for information)



CONFIDENTIAL.

Your NY.1529. Relations with U.A.R.

During call on Fawzi in early November, Canadian Ambassador Cairo arranged call again with Gardner in about fortnight to discuss points outlined by Minister in New York. We furnished brief and are still awaiting outcome of discussions.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.(163/10/1)  
P.M'S

8th December, 1958.

*file*

*NET*



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

INWARD CABLEGRAM.

CM

Dated: 2nd December, 1958.

2130

Rec'd: 3rd December, 1958.

1323

(Transmitted via leased channel)



FROM:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

NY1529. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Ottawa cable 31.

From Walker.

Relations with U.A.R.

In view of approach end of Assembly, I would appreciate receiving information regarding any progress made by Gardner in Cairo following Minister's conversation with Fawzi here.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S

3rd December, 1958.

*file*

CONFIDENTIAL

*met*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS **CONFIDENTIAL**  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

SHA:HF

I.18072/3

FROM:

Dated: 16th October, 1958.

1415

Rec'd: 17th October, 1958.

1635

(Via leased channel)

Australian Mission to  
the United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

NY1056. CONFIDENTIAL.

Repeated Washington for information, repeated  
London (for External) Saving 147, Ottawa (please pass to  
Gardner and inform the Canadians) No.20. Washington please pass.

For McBride from Casey.

M.53.

*relations with Egypt*

I met Fawzi today with Walker. Our conversation opened with some discussion of the General Middle East situation. Then Fawzi said, turning to problems of more immediate concern between our two countries, he believed many questions had been settled following our previous talk. Qantas was flying into Cairo and he understood that financial problems were making progress. He hoped that the early settlement of financial issues with the United Kingdom would enable any outstanding matters with Australia to be arranged. All this was put in friendly terms.

2. I said that while there had been some progress in these respects I wished to say frankly that we did not understand the attitude of hostility of the Egyptian Government towards Australia. We had not made war on Egypt but the Egyptians had treated our Nationals as enemy Nationals and had desecrated our War Memorial and war graves, which commemorated men who had died defending Egypt.

3. Fawzi said he appreciated my frankness and he too preferred to speak frankly. In the minds of Egyptians the mission of Mr. Menzies to Cairo in 1956 had tended to identify Australia with the tripartite military action. But all that was in the past and he wanted to settle any remaining problems including the restoration of Diplomatic relations.

4. I said there were two very important matters on which despite our conversation a year ago we had received no-satisfaction. One was the continued operation of Proclamation No.5B. His Government had repealed Proclamation No.5 as applied to France and we considered they should now repeal Proclamation No.5B which placed disabilities on Australian Nationals. Fawzi said he was not familiar with those regulations but he was very willing to take the matter up. I drew attention to our request made through the Canadians for the repeal of the Proclamation. After some discussion he suggested that on his return to Cairo in about ten days or so the Canadian Ambassador should take Gardner to call on him and explain what particular steps were necessary. "They can tell me what to do" he said. I also mentioned the question of desecration fees.

5. I then referred to the destruction of our War Memorial and desecration of our war graves which were matters of great

**CONFIDENTIAL**

/sentimental.....

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not



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
CONFIDENTIAL  
INWARD CABLEGRAM.

1.19072/3

sentimental importance to our people. I said we expected them to take the necessary steps to restore the memorial either for erection in its former position or, if we so decided, outside Egypt. Fawzi said that such matters of sentiment were important politically, and gave me his assurance that he would take positive action regarding them. He remarked that they were allowing Fanfani (the Italian Foreign Minister) to visit Egypt for ceremonies connected with an Italian Memorial, and said if they were prepared to do this for the people who had fought against them they could not object to the commemoration of people who had not fought against Egypt. He repeated his assurance that he would do his best to give us satisfaction on these matters. These problems could only be solved if we talked to each other about them.

I said that until we had satisfaction on all these matters there could not be much progress in the relationship between our countries.

7. I propose to follow this up by sending Fawzi a memorandum of our conversation which may serve as a peg on which to hang further discussions in due course.

A/MIN & DEPT. E.A.  
P.L.'s

17th October, 1958.

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

SECRET

INWARD CABLEGRAM.

MP:FPG

I.17816

Dated: 13th October, 1958  
1 2255

Rec'd: 14th October, 1958  
1613

FROM:

(Via leased Channel)

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.

20 26 SECRET PRIORITY

M. 46.

Relations with Egypt.

I told Dulles today that I was seeing Fawzi on Wednesday and that the talk would probably be about renewal of Australian relations. He said that he was very dissatisfied with the current attitude of the Egyptians and he suspected they were planning something unpleasant. Past experience had indicated that when Egypt had planned something that would annoy us (such as nationalizing Suez Canal) they delayed putting it into effect until the West provided them with a pretext. They were now making much of the sale to Israel of submarines by the United Kingdom and he thought it possible that they would do something unpleasant using this as a pretext. In the circumstances he thought that we should not rush to establish relations with Egypt for a few weeks at least. I said we did not propose to rush our jumps in any event.

14th October, 1958.

A/ MIN & DEPT E.A.  
P.M.'S.

*file  
Diplomatic relations with UAR HPS*





CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

NG.REW:ABK

O.12513.

Sent: 3rd October, 1958.  
1715.

TO:

Australian Legation,  
PHNOM PENH.



60 CONFIDENTIAL.

Your 104.

U.A.R. Minister.

We have not yet taken any formal action to recognise United Arab Republic. But more important is fact that Egypt broke diplomatic relations with Australia. You should refrain from formally acknowledging notification of assumption of duty if he sends one and avoid receiving any formal call.

2. This should not exclude courteous personal relations on the basis of which you could if necessary explain position when suitable occasion arises, relying on the second ground abovementioned. We would stress desirability of maintaining good personal relations. We would not want to inhibit you in your social contacts with him.

COMMUNIST CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE

3. You should act as described in paragraph 1 above. In the event of unavoidable contact, polite relations should be observed.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

(Cost £14/8/-)

7th October, 1958.

*full*

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

56/1308  
SECRET 1958

CM:LstL

0.12349

TO:

Sent: 1st October, 1958  
1400

Australian High Commission  
LONDON.

2183 SECRET

For External.

Your memorandum 1009 of 12th September.

Question has arisen in one of our posts of attitude to be adopted to newly appointed United Arab Republic Head of Mission.

2. Does Foreign Office policy of "slipping into" recognition as outlined in your memorandum under reference now apply to relations between United Kingdom and United Arab Republic diplomatic missions in the field. We should be glad to know by cablegram how United Kingdom representatives are being instructed.

A/- MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

(214/10/1)

Cost £7.16.8

2nd October, 1958



## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.



LStL

O.12256

TO:

Sent: 19th September, 1958  
3014  
(via leased channel)

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

603 SECRET

For Casey from McBride.

Your NY873. Relations with Egypt.

We are in complete agreement with Your M.29 including your views on timing (your paragraph 3) (although question of higher status (your paragraph 7) might be kept for later deliberation). Our immediately following telegram describes Australian disabilities in Egypt. We suggest that you might like to repeat to Crocker for his own information your M.29 and this reply.

2. If the Egyptian approach you they may also raise the separate question of Australian recognition of the United Arab Republic. If we hold out against this we may find ourselves in the position of odd man out in company with Israel, France, United Kingdom and Jordan. With the conclusion last month of the Franco Egyptian Financial Agreement, France is now in a position to extend recognition to the United Arab Republic Jordan only awaits an approach by the United Arab Republic to extend recognition. United Kingdom recognition merely awaits a financial agreement, the hold up in which may be related to British presence in Jordan. The United Kingdom tactic has been to slip into recognition unobtrusively by acting, as opportunity occurs, as if recognition had already been accorded. In this way they could presumably reach a stage where they could say, at the appropriate moment, that recognition had been accorded. Walker will be aware of minor action which we ourselves have taken in United Nations agencies in favour of United Arab Republic candidatures, but we consider that we should be ready to recognise the United Arab Republic positively as soon as it suits us to do so. The time to offer recognition could be when Fawzi approaches you.

SIR PHILIP MC BRIDE  
MR. A. H. TANGE  
SIR ALLEN BROWN

1st October, 1958

SECRET



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL



JERC:SS

O. 8658

Sent: 9th July, 1958  
1340

TO:

Australian Embassy,  
MANILA.

184. CONFIDENTIAL - PRIORITY.

Your 147.

We have not so far taken any action to recognise United Arab Republic. But more important is fact that Egypt broke diplomatic relations with Australia. You should refrain from formally acknowledging notification of assumption of duty if he sends one and decline to receive any proposed call.

2. This should not exclude possibility of courteous personal relations on the basis of which you could explain position when suitable occasion arises. Minister has asked that we stress to you the desirability of maintaining good personal relations.

3. Please tell us if United Kingdom Ambassador has any different instructions.

---

(COST £10.16.0).

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1506/11)  
P.M.'s

9th July, 1958.



## OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

0:8409 and 0:8436

Sent: 2nd July, 1958.

1047

\* (Via Leased Channel)

ABK:SDP

TO:

Australian High Commission, \*  
OTTAWA. .....212

Australian Embassy, \*  
WASHINGTON. ....1007

Australian High Commission, (For External)  
LONDON. ....1439

UNCLASSIFIED.

Following Press release was made in Canberra on Tuesday  
 1st July.

Begins:-

The Canadian Government with the concurrence of the  
 Egyptian Government have agreed to the attachment of an Australian  
 Official to the Canadian Embassy Cairo which is in charge of  
 Australian interests in Egypt. The official is Mr. R.H. Gardner,  
 of the Department of External Affairs, who is expected to arrive  
 in Cairo at the end of this week. This arrangement is designed  
 to assist the transfer to Australian owners of their assets in  
 Egypt which were sequestered by the Egyptian Government in 1956  
 but have now been desequestered.

Ends.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1533/41/1)  
 MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C-S-M)  
 MIN. & DEPT. PRIMARY INDUSTRY (C-M)  
 ATTORNEY-GENERAL & DEPT.  
 TREASURER & TREASURY  
 MIN. & DEPT. IMMIGRATION  
 MIN. & DEPT. CIVIL AVIATION  
 P.M.'S. DEPT.  
 P.M.'s.

(Cost -£4.10.0)

3rd July, 1958.



Copy to Malheur





DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. **CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

SDP:SDP

0:8363

Sent: 1st July, 1958.

1103

(Via Leased Channel).



TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

210. CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

Since press have enquired about Gardner, we shall be making a short statement for to-morrow's newspapers stating that with agreement of Canadians and Egyptians he will be attached to the Canadian Embassy which has charge of Australian interests in Egypt, and that he will be concerned with desequstration of Australian property.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M's.

2nd July, 1958.



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

O:8084

:SDP

Sent: 25th June, 1958.

1259

(Via Leased Channel)



TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

198. CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

Australian Interests in Egypt. Your 192.

Gardner will be leaving Melbourne Tuesday, 1st July, and depending on onward bookings from Singapore arrive in Cairo at 0600 hours Sunday 6th July by Qantas EM533. We will inform Cairo. He will travel on Australian Diplomatic Passport No. D 1520 valid until 21st February 1963. Full name Richard Hamilton Gardner.

2. Would you please tell Canadians and request them to advise Egyptian Foreign Ministry. We should be glad if arrangements could be made for Egyptian visa to be granted on arrival at Cairo.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1533/41/1)  
P.M.'s.

26th June, 1958.

*duf*



CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

JD:CM

I.10336

56/130-2  
23 JUN 1958

Dated: 20th June, 1958.

1320

Rec'd: 21st June, 1958.

1038

(Transmitted via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

192. CONFIDENTIAL IMMEDIATE.

Repeated Washington OTWA 314, U.N. New York 10 and  
London 45.

Australian representation in Egypt.

The following is a summary of a telegram the  
Canadians have received from Cairo.

The Foreign Ministry state that they accept the  
proposal to attach an Australian Diplomatic Officer to the  
Canadian Embassy and that the way is open for him to come to  
Cairo at any time. They further state the simplest way to  
obtain a visa is at Cairo airport and that if the Australian  
authorities provide the name of the Officer, Passport  
details, flight number and time of arrival the Ministry  
will arrange for a visa on his arrival. The Canadian Embassy  
comments that this method of issuing visas is not unusual.  
It is suggested sufficient time be allowed to enable the  
information required to reach Cairo before the arrival of the  
officer - at least 48 hours.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S

21st June, 1958.

CONFIDENTIAL

duf



CONFIDENTIAL  
INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I. 9922.

TWIP-MP

Dated: 13th June, 1958.  
2045.  
Rec'd: 14th June, 1958.  
1517.

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.185. CONFIDENTIALRepeated Washington OTWA 305 and London (for External)  
Saving 49.

Australian Representation in Cairo.

Further my telegram 178. MacDonnell saw Khalil, Assistant Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, again yesterday and was informed that the U.A.R. could not extend immunities and privileges to an Australian Consul. He said the legal obstacles in the way of doing this in the absence of diplomatic relations had proved insuperable.

2. Your proposal for the attachment of Gardner to the Canadian Embassy was then put to Khalil who seemed personally sympathetic to it. He asked MacDonnell about details of the proposed arrangements and was informed that it was anticipated that the Officer would have the status, rights and obligations of a Canadian Officer and that he would be an ordinary diplomatic member of the Embassy Staff in every respect, but without Canadian Nationality. Khalil offered no unfavourable comment to this and in fact reacted favourably when told the rank of the proposed officer would be Second Secretary, his comment being that an officer of this rank was not likely to become Charge d'Affaires ad interim in view of having two First Secretaries above him. MacDonnell agreed and assured him there was in any case no likelihood of the Australian Officer being designated as Charge.

3. MacDonnell has been promised that the proposal will be discussed at once with other branches of the Ministry concerned and he reports that the atmosphere of the discussion was favourable.

.....Crocker.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

15th June, 1958.



INWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL



SHL:SS

I. 9504

Dated: 9th June, 1958

1230

FROM:

Rec'd: 10th June, 1958  
0947

Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A.

(Via leased channel).

178. CONFIDENTIAL.

Representation of Australian Interests in Cairo.

MacDonnell has telegraphed that if he has not heard from the Foreign Ministry by 11th June which will be a week after his last interview on the above subject, he will request a further appointment. If by then he has not received a satisfactory answer to their request for a reconsideration of the question of immunities and privileges he will "ask about the attachment of an Australian Diplomatic Officer to the Canadian Embassy."

2. MacDonnell is being posted from Cairo to Ottawa sometime in August.

...Crocker.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.K.'s

10th June, 1958.

CONFIDENTIAL

*dnf*



INWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

AMENDED COPY

I. 9273.

:MP

Dated: 5th June, 1958.  
2010.  
Rec'd: 6th June, 1958.  
1254.

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

172. CONFIDENTIAL

Representation of Australian Interests in Cairo.

Further to my No 166, a telegram was sent to MacDonnell at the end of last week asking him to reply to the points raised in your telegram No 169. No reply has yet arrived from MacDonnell and Leger has now sent him a personal telegram, marked immediate, recapitulating our case and concluding with "unless you see very serious objections to the attachment of an Australian Diplomatic Officer to your staff, I would be grateful if you would approach the Authorities there on the matter as soon as it becomes clear they are not repeat not prepared to reverse their decision on the granting of privileges and immunities to an Australian Consular Representative".

2. The point you had cited <sup>q</sup> as in the nature of a precedent for the Egyptians, namely the posting of an Egyptian Officer in the Indian High Commission, London, has been looked into by the Canadians. They find that there are two Egyptians so posted but they are without privileges and immunities. Leger has therefore not mentioned the point to MacDonnell.

Ø amendment

.....Crocker.

MIN. & DEPT. E. A. (1515/2/24/1)  
P.M's

6th June, 1958.

CONFIDENTIAL

any



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

Dated: 5th June 1958.

Rec'd: 6th June, 1958.  
1254.

:MP

(via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

172. CONFIDENTIAL

Representation of Australian Interests in Cairo.

Further to my No 166, a telegram was sent to MacDonnell at the end of last week asking him to reply to the points raised in your telegram No 169. No reply has yet arrived from MacDonnell and Leger has now sent him a personal telegram, marked immediate, recapitulating our case and concluding with "unless you see very serious objections to the attachment of an Australian Diplomatic Officer to your staff, I would be grateful if you would approach the Authorities there on the matter as soon as it becomes clear they are not repeat not prepared to reverse their decision on the granting of privileges and immunities to an Australian Consular Representative".

2. The point you had cited was in the nature of a precedent for the Egyptians, namely the posting of an Egyptian Officer in the Indian High Commission, London, has been looked into by the Canadians. They find that there are two Egyptians so posted but they are without privileges and immunities. Leger has therefore not mentioned the point to MacDonnell.

.....Crocker.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1515/2/24/1)  
P.M's

6th June, 1958.



*duf*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

0.6855

MP/ED

Sent: 28th May, 1958  
1605

TO:

\* Transmitted via leased channel

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA. 169. \*

Repeated:  
Australian High Commission,  
LONDON. 1117.

CONFIDENTIAL.

For Crocker from Casey.

Your 146.

Egyptian willingness to accept Australian official in Cairo is encouraging. But we cannot agree to send him to take up residence without the basic privileges and immunities including inviolability of cyphers and archives and immunity from legal proceedings in respect of official acts) accorded to officials performing consular acts. We cannot accept that an Australian official performing these functions should enjoy no greater legal rights or protection (whatever they may be) than those enjoyed by a private Australian citizen living in Egypt.

2. If Egyptians persist in the attitude you have reported the only alternatives that we see are to look to the Canadians to discharge these functions unaided by us or to agree and move the Egyptians to agree to attachment of an Australian officer to the Canadian Embassy (our telegram 59). The Egyptians have a somewhat similar arrangement in London (London's Ex 25) and might not object to this.

3. I should like you to seek early interview with Minister or leader and urge Canadian agreement to the above course if they consider that Egyptians cannot be moved from their present attitude on a straight out consular appointment. We find it hard to believe that Canada's good relations with Egypt would be compromised by the attachment to their mission of a junior Australian official. This arrangement would give our representative the necessary protection and help relieve the Canadian Embassy of its burden of work on protection of Australian interest. We do not see why questions of authority and administration need be an obstacle. Canadians may have misgivings about direct approaches to us. This is not intended to qualify final authority of Ambassador. Gardner's right to communicate direct with us would be designed to permit the direct passage of information, the answering of question, etc. We would accept that an instruction from us would not over-ride the Ambassador's decision on any matter. The matter would be shifted by us to representations to the Canadian Government if we differed and the question justified it.

4. Reference last sentence of your paragraph 3, it has not been intended that the Australian Officer should act as agent of claimants for receiving assets. His function as we have envisaged it would be of a normal consular character,

**CONFIDENTIAL**

...../including





OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

2.

0.6855

including legalisation of documents and contact with Government officials where necessary in particular cases, leaving agency functions in the hands of private agents of the respective claimants.

5. We would intend Gardner's appointment to be for a temporary period of four to six months. Thereafter he might be followed by Consular Clerk if need still exists for work on desequstration.

(Cost £39.15.0)

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1515/2/24/1)  
P.M'S.

29th May, 1958

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

0.6849

ABK:CM

Sent: 28th May, 1958.

1529

(Transmitted via leased channel)

TO:

Australian Mission to United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

259. CONFIDENTIAL.



For Renouf.

Australian Representation in Egypt.

Your NY.349.

1. Egyptian Under Secretary has told Canadians Egypt will accept an Australian official in Cairo without status, privileges or immunities. We cannot accept that an Australian official performing consular functions should enjoy no more rights or protections than a private individual. We expect normal consular treatment (unrelated to question of diplomatic relations).

2. We have told Canadians that if Egyptians persist in their attitude, we must either look to them to discharge functions unaided by us or to secure Egyptian approval to attachment of Australian officer to Canadian Embassy. We do not want to cross wires with the Canadians. If you see Loutfi again, you may tell him our position in paragraph 1, but do not request action or inform him of our alternative proposal to the Canadians.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S

30th May, 1958.

*duf*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CONFIDENTIAL

INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I.8384

Sent: 22nd May, 1958  
1800

Rec'd: 23rd May, 1958  
0952



SHC/BD

Transmitted via leased channel

FROM:

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

NY349. CONFIDENTIAL.

Australian Representation in Egypt.

1. In a conversation with Renouf yesterday, Loutfi expressed surprise over the delay we were experiencing in obtaining agreement to Gardner's posting in Cairo. Loutfi said he could see no reason for this. He volunteered to take the question up with Cairo if we would give him the facts.

2. If you wish us to take up his offer please advise what we should pass to Loutfi.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S.

23rd May, 1958

*duf*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CONFIDENTIAL

INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I:6324

SDP

Dated: 22nd April, 1958.  
1710

Rec'd: 23rd April, 1958.  
0945

(Via Leased Channel)

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

.....125

REPEATED TO:

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.

OTWA214

Australian Mission to the United Nations,  
NEW YORK.

.....28

Australian High Commission, (For External).  
LONDON.

.....Sav.34.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Australian Representation in Egypt.

Reference our telegram 117 and your telegram 115.  
The Canadian Ambassador in Cairo reports he is still unable  
to obtain a decision on the entry and status of an Australian  
representative in Cairo.

He has been in touch with the office of the Under  
Secretary in the Egyptian Foreign Office on a number of  
occasions he reports but without success. In this connection  
MacDonnell reports "It is apparent that the process of  
inter-Departmental consultation is involved. Any agreed  
arrangement undoubtedly would also require the assent of the  
President. My impression therefore is that the delay in  
settling this question may arise less from the substantive  
difficulties than from the procedures of Government."

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M's.

23rd April, 1958.

CONFIDENTIAL

dwf



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I.6094

Sent: 17th April, 1958

1730

Rec'd: 18th April, 1958

1258

JG:BD

Transmitted via leased channel

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

117.

SECRET.

For the Minister from Crocker.

Australian Representation in Egypt.

Your 115.

On receipt of your telegram No. 99 on Friday last we called on the Canadians and as a result a cable was sent to Cairo asking their Ambassador to pass on your assurances about intentions regarding resumption of diplomatic relations. The message also drew attention once again to our anxiety for an early reply from the Egyptians and asked MacDonnell to do what he could to obtain an urgent decision on the proposals put forward in your telegram 74.

2. During the last five weeks either the First Secretary or myself have raised with the Canadian Department the points in your telegrams more than half a dozen times. The Head of the Division concerned is personally well disposed (his wife is Australian) and does his best but he is pretty obviously hampered by a disinclination to press the Canadian Ambassador at Cairo too hard for fear of antagonising him. We have had to be as insistent on matters of Australian interests in Egypt as on Spender's I.C.J. election and have encountered a similar but unvoiced reluctance. On several occasions I have spoken to Leger and once to the Minister, but you will realise that it is a delicate matter to take a line implying criticism of senior Canadian officials and that it is not in our interests to do so unless there is a flagrant case, which there has not been. The Canadian Ambassador has in my opinion been only moderately helpful, as I predicted to you in a personal letter after his appointment last year, and in some matters has carried dilatoriness far, because of his manifest desire not to displease the Egyptians.

3. The Canadians expect a reply from Cairo to Monday's message before the weekend, but if this is not forthcoming they will telegraph their Ambassador again for the information required. He is also being asked again about the War Memorial.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

18th April, 1958

SECRET

duf



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

0.4925

Sent: 17th April, 1958.  
1528

\* (Via leased channel)



:HB

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA. 115 \*

REPEATED:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON. Saving. 44. (Washington please pass)

CONFIDENTIAL

For Crocker from Casey.

Australian representation in Egypt.

Five weeks have now elapsed since proposal was submitted to Egyptians and continued delay is embarrassing to us.

2. We are afraid that if decision is not reached before Nasser goes to Moscow there may be further indefinite delay.

3. Glad if you would ask Canadians to press Egyptians for decision.

4. Would also appreciate your reminding Canadians of our interest in obtaining information regarding War Memorial at Port Said.

-----  
MIN. DEPT. E.A. (1533/41/1)  
(1510/3/27/1)  
P.M.'s.

21st April, 1958.

*dup*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

**SECRET**

56/1308

CM:VA

I. 14463

Sent: 5th October, 1957  
2010  
Rec'd: 6th October, 1957  
1243

(Transmitted via leased channel)

FROM:

Australian Embassy,  
WASHINGTON.

1229. SECRET.

A.N.Z.U.S. Council Meeting - Relations with Egypt.

Your telegram 1018.

For Menzies from Casey. (M48).

I took opportunity at A.N.Z.U.S. Council Meeting  
of mentioning confidentially our proposed approach to Egyptians.  
Dulles made no comment.

-----

PRIME MINISTER & DEPT.  
A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
A/SOLICITOR-GENERAL  
P.M's.

7th October, 1957.





SECRET



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

INWARD CABLEGRAM.

MS:VA

I. 8662

Sent: 20th June, 1957  
1657  
Rec'd: 21st June, 1957  
1000

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.



141. CONFIDENTIAL.

For the Minister from Crocker.

Our 124.

The Canadian Embassy in Cairo delivered a note to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry on 14th June. Text despatched today.

2. The Embassy has advised that they have received no complaints from Australians transiting the Canal. They have been informed that a party of Australian passengers recently passed through the Canal on an Italian ship without any difficulty and without having been issued transit visas. However, they were not permitted to go ashore and in one case an Egyptian tradesman could not go aboard to discuss business with an Australian citizen.

-----

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL & DEPT.  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIGRATION  
P.M's.

21st June, 1957.

*file*

CONFIDENTIAL



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

MMC:SHA

I.7977.

FROM:

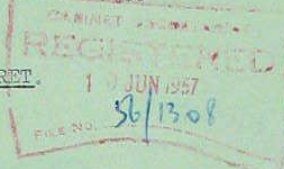
Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.Dated: 6th June, 1957.  
1701  
Recd.: 7th June, 1957.  
1400

124.

SECRET.

For Minister.

Your telegram No. 174.



The Canadian Embassy, Cairo, was asked today by External to present an appropriate notice to the Egyptians requesting assurances regarding Australians in transit through the Canal. The precise wording has been left to the discretion of the Canadian Ambassador, but your views on the matter have been conveyed to him.

2. In regard to paragraph 3 of your telegram 164, the Embassy has now replied that there is little they can add to the information contained in our Savingram 41, except to mention that Law No. 533 of 1954 concerning the Declaration of Martial Law, which has been brought into action by Law No. 329 of 1st November, 1956, appears to be the basic Egyptian law under which Proclamations Nos. 5 and 5B have been passed. Articles 3 and 4 of Law No. 533 are broad enough to cover the provisions of Proclamations 5 and 5B and also the power to arrest and to intern.

3. The Embassy has reiterated that all Australian Nationals do not enjoy the same legal status in Egypt (see paragraph 4 of attachment to our memorandum 314 and paragraph 1 of our savingram 41). Those Australians who do not come within the provision of Proclamation 5B would seem to enjoy the same legal status as other foreigners in Egypt. The legal status of those coming within Proclamation 5B is outlined in Proclamation 5 and subsequent amendments thereto (paragraphs 2 and 3 of our savingram 41).

4. The Embassy adds that you will appreciate that they are not in a position to give expert legal opinions on these matters and presume that you will therefore be able to have them carefully examined by your own legal experts.

5. The question of visas raised in paragraph 4 of your telegram No. 164 is being dealt with by the Embassy separately.

6. Crocker is at present away and will be back on 20th June.

Homer.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL & DEPT.  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIGRATION  
P.M.'s

7th June, 1957.

*file with Sav. 41. Cable 164*  
*Per [signature]*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

**SECRET**

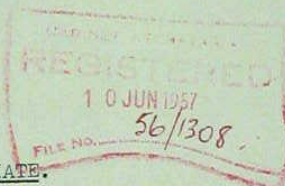
G.7204

Sent: 5th June, 1957.  
1610

VA/BH

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.



174.

SECRET IMMEDIATE.

Crocker from Casey.

Your telegram 120.

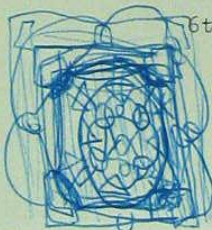
With shipping now using the Canal I consider that we cannot delay a formal approach to the Egyptians. I should be grateful if this could be made immediately and the result reported to me. I should also appreciate earliest advice on the matters raised in paragraphs 3 and 4 of my telegram 164.

2. It should be explained to the Egyptians that we are not seeking exemption of Australians from normal civil powers exercised by Egypt and made generally applicable and which conform to accepted international standards, but that we do want to establish that Australians who disembark in Egypt will not be subjected to any discriminatory treatment.

(Cost £10.5.0)

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND DEPT.  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIGRATION  
P.M.'S.

6th June, 1957.



*file*



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I.7770/63

Sent: 3rd June, 1957.  
1626  
Rec'd: 4th June, 1957.  
1145

MS/BH

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

120. SECRET.

Minister from Crocker.

Further to your 164 and to my 118 on Egypt.

At the Conference this morning the Canadians asked whether we could accept their suggestion that they first approach the Egyptians on an informal basis at a high level regarding safeguards against interference with Australian citizens. Although they will have to leave it to the discretion of their Ambassador they would recommend to him that he take as early an occasion as possible to raise the point informally with Fawzi himself or if unavoidable, with someone just below Fawzi. They add that although the Ambassador is already in Cairo his credentials will not be presented until about the 10th and it will take him a while to get his relations with Fawzi on a confident personal basis. It may therefore be a couple of weeks before he can raise the matter to the best advantage, though they will ask him to do so as soon as he can. While emphasizing that if you insist on a formal approach they will of course carry out your wishes, the Canadians believe that an informal approach at this stage will be more effective. If an informal approach proves bootless, a formal request can then be made.

2. Please telegraph instructions whether you agree to the Canadian suggestion.
3. Regarding a written assurance of the kind you mention, the Canadians feel that the Egyptians would in any case boggle at this, if only because incidents genuinely beyond their control are not to be excluded. On the other hand, the information they have leads the Canadians to believe that the Egyptians are now anxious to have tourists and to appear on their best behaviour with foreigners.
4. They added that since Norman's death relations between the Canadian Embassy and the Egyptian Government had ceased except for certain detailed cases. Their experience is that on the one hand the Desk Officer level is almost a waste of time in Cairo, while on the other hand, Fawzi and the senior men, will not bother with Charges d'Affaires of the substantive rank of the Canadian Charge. They hope that effective relations will be resumed as soon as MacDonnell gets into the saddle.

SECRET

*file*



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

2.

I.7770/63

5. Robins on then gave an appreciation of the situation as seen by the Canadian Department of External Affairs at the moment of which a summary follows.

Nasser's regime so far shows no signs of losing its grip. The degree of economic stress has been greatly exaggerated. Whether elections will really take place they do not know. Nasser himself, though obsessed with fears of assassination and dependent a good deal on a small group of close advisers, is still the assured leader. Recent events in Jordan and Iraq have been a defeat for Nasser, but have scarcely rocked his regime. The Canadians feel that the Eisenhower Doctrine if, it is made to depend too much on the three Kings will have too brittle a basis to provided stability in the Middle East. In any case, the Palestine refugees remain an unsolved and an increasingly dangerous threat to stability. The flatness with which the recent Russian letters had been rejected is viewed with misgivings by the Canadians. They feel that these should have been handled in a less cavalier way, if only from the propaganda viewpoint, and they believe that the Russians are genuinely and understandably concerned to be consulted to some extent in Middle East Affairs. Reverting to the Egyptians, the Canadians feel that, although the recent arrangements fall short of the six Principles they are well worth giving a trial. They believe that the United States Ambassador did an excellent job of negotiation, but they also believe that the Egyptians had so strong a bargaining position, that they could have been much tougher than they were. For this and for other reasons, they feel that Egypt is not looking for a fight. As regards the Israelis, the Canadian estimate is that if they avoid provocation it is not impossible that Egypt will apply a fairly liberal interpretation of the contraband list and will let Israeli cargos through, but the Canadians fear that the Israelis, unless pressed to it, will not avoid provocation.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL & DEPT.  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIGRATION  
P.M.'S.

4th June, 1957.

SECRET



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.** **CONFIDENTIAL**

ABK:ABK.

I.7642.

Dated: 31st May, 1957

1138.

Rec'd: 1st June, 1957

0830.

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

118. CONFIDENTIAL.

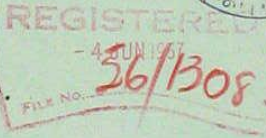
For the Minister from Crocker.

Your 164.

McDonnell, the new Canadian Ambassador is already in Cairo. Before he left I saw him with a view to getting his personal goodwill for looking after our interests. I am now dealing with the specific points you mention. The Canadian Department of External Affairs finds on investigation that it has not got the answers here to the points raised in your paragraphs 3 and 4 and has telegraphed MacDonnell about them. The points raised in paragraph 2 are still more difficult and it has been decided to hold a Conference between the two senior officers concerned and myself and this will take place on Monday. I will telegraph again then.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
ATTN: GEN & DEPT.  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIG.  
P.M.'S.

1st June, 1957.





SECRET

## CABLEGRAM.

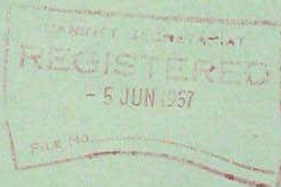
SS.

O. 6980

TO:

Sent: 30th May  
1820

Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A

163. SECRET

From External.

Egypt.

Our telegram 1326. Foreign Office (Brenchley) advises that passports are being made valid for Egypt if United Kingdom citizens request it, but a slip of paper is inserted advising them to postpone the visit unless it is absolutely essential. They are advised there is no political objection, but that they have to obtain an Egyptian visa and that the United Kingdom cannot extend protection. They are also advised to consult their bankers in view of sequestration legislation in Egypt.

2. No special advice has been given to shipping companies.

3. Foreign Office information is that Egyptian officials are on their best behaviour and the general public apathetic. I saw report from Foreign Service Officer who disembarked at Port Said from first British ship through Canal. His tour of city confirmed Foreign Office view.

(GCST 413.8.4)

MIN & DEPT EA  
MIN & DEPT IMMIGRATION  
A/MIN & DEPT DEFENCE  
ATTORNEY-GEN & DEPT  
TREASURER & TREASURY  
P.M.'s

31st May, 1957

SECRET

file



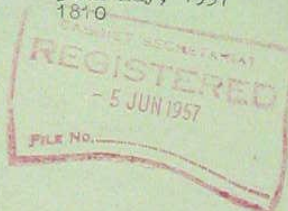
SECRET

## CABLEGRAM.

SS.

O. 6981

TO:

Sent: 30th May, 1957  
1810Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A164. SECRET

Crocker from Casey.

Now that the Canal has been reopened we should like to feel fully confident that Australians in transit (as well as those in Egypt) will not be subjected to internment, restriction or any other interference. We have sought the views of the United Kingdom Foreign Office whose own nationals are similarly affected and have received from Davis the advice contained in my immediately following telegram.

2. While Davis' report is comforting, I feel that if Australian citizens are to pass through the Canal and go ashore, there is an obligation on us to seek some safeguard against interference. I have noted from your savingram 41 the information given by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry at the Desk level to the Canadian Embassy in Cairo. Notwithstanding this advice and the position as stated by the United Kingdom Foreign Office, I should feel happier if the Canadian Embassy could obtain formally and at the appropriate level from the Egyptian Foreign Ministry a firm assurance preferably in writing that Australians travelling through the Canal and disembarking at Canal ports will not be subjected to interference. I recognise the difficulty of getting anything firm from the Egyptians but it is in their interest that travellers, shipping companies and other governments should feel no apprehension.

3. It is impossible on the information before us to determine just what is the legal status of Australians in Egypt. We have what purports to be the text of certain Egyptian proclamations but we do not know:-

- (a) what basic Egyptian law or decree has defined United Kingdom and French citizens as enemy aliens
- (b) whether, and, if so, by what law or decree this has been extended to Australians.

Advice on these points would be appreciated. We assume that power to arrest and intern arises from Law No. 533 of 1954 and Law No. 329 of 1956.

4. Please advise us also whether Egyptian visas are required for Australians temporarily disembarking while in transit through the Canal.

5. I understand that Macdonald has been appointed Canadian Ambassador in Cairo. In addition to asking the Canadian Department of External Affairs to undertake the above action, I

SECRET

/2.....

file



SECRET

**CABLEGRAM.**

O. 6981

should be glad if you would put Macdonald into the picture on this and other current matters concerning our interests in Egypt. We shall be forwarding to you by bag a memorandum relating to sequestration of Australian property in Egypt.

---

(COST £33.18.4)

31st May, 1957

MIN & DEPT EA  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL & DEPT  
MIN & DEPT IMMIGRATION  
P.M.'s

SECRET



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

I.7770/63

Sent: 3rd June, 1957.

1626

Rec'd: 4th June, 1957.

1145

MS/BH

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

120.

SECRET.

Minister from Crocker.

Further to your 164 and to my 118 on Egypt.

At the Conference this morning the Canadians asked whether we could accept their suggestion that they first approach the Egyptians on an informal basis at a high level regarding safeguards against interference with Australian citizens. Although they will have to leave it to the discretion of their Ambassador they would recommend to him that he take as early an occasion as possible to raise the point informally with Fawzi himself or if unavoidable, with someone just below Fawzi. They add that although the Ambassador is already in Cairo his credentials will not be presented until about the 10th and it will take him a while to get his relations with Fawzi on a confident personal basis. It may therefore be a couple of weeks before he can raise the matter to the best advantage, though they will ask him to do so as soon as he can. While emphasizing that if you insist on a formal approach they will of course carry out your wishes, the Canadians believe that an informal approach at this stage will be more effective. If an informal approach proves bootless, a formal request can then be made.

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4. They added that since Norman's death relations between the Canadian Embassy and the Egyptian Government had ceased except for certain detailed cases. Their experience is that on the one hand the Desk Officer level is almost a waste of time in Cairo, while on the other hand, Fawzi and the senior men, will not bother with charges D'Affaires of the substantive rank of the Canadian Charge. They hope that effective relations will be resumed as soon as MacDonnell gets into the saddle.

SECRET

*file*



SECRET

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

2.

I. 7770/63

5. Robison then gave an appreciation of the situation as seen by the Canadian Department of External Affairs at the moment of which a summary follows.

Nasser's regime so far shows no signs of losing its grip. The degree of economic stress has been greatly exaggerated. Whether elections will really take place they do not know. Nasser himself, though obsessed with fears of assassination and dependent a good deal on a small group of close advisers, is still the assured leader. Recent events in Jordan and Iraq have been a defeat for Nasser, but have scarcely rocked his regime. The Canadians feel that the Eisenhower Doctrine if, it is made to depend too much on the three Kings will have too brittle a basis to provided stability in the Middle East. In any case, the Palestine refugees remain an unsolved and an increasingly dangerous threat to stability. The flatness with which the recent Russian letters had been rejected is viewed with misgivings by the Canadians. They feel that these should have been handled in a less cavalier way, if only from the propaganda viewpoint, and they believe that the Russians are genuinely and understandably concerned to be consulted to some extent in Middle East Affairs. Reverting to the Egyptians, the Canadians feel that, although the recent arrangements fall short of the Six Principles they are well worth giving a trial. They believe that the United States Ambassador did an excellent job of negotiation, but they also believe that the Egyptians had so strong a bargaining position, that they could have been much tougher than they were. For this and for other reasons, they feel that Egypt is not looking for a fight. As regards the Israelis, the Canadian estimate is that if they avoid provocation it is not impossible that Egypt will apply a fairly liberal interpretation of the contraband list and will let Israeli cargos through, but the Canadians fear that the Israelis, unless pressed to it, will not avoid provocation.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL & DEPT.  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIGRATION  
P.M.'S.

4th June, 1957.

SECRET



SECRET

BH:MS:MC

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

I.7245/6.

**INWARD SAVINGRAM.**

Dated: 15th May, 1957.

Rec'd: 24th May, 1957.

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

Savingram No. 41.

SECRET

Repeated London (for External) Savingram 62.

Your telegram No. 123 of 5th April concerning  
Australians in Egypt



Following is the text of a telegram dated 13th May from the Canadian Embassy in Cairo. We presume you will by now have received the text of proclamations referred to (see paragraph 10 of the Embassy's telegram).

Begins:

Under Proclamation 5B Australian nationals are classified as enemy nationals in the sense that the provisions of Proclamation 5 outlining the treatment to be given to enemy nationals (French and British) are made applicable to them. However, not all Australian nationals fall under Proclamation 5B. Employees and employers of not more than two employees do not come within the provisions provided they are residing in Egypt and provided they have not individually been made subject to the Proclamation.

2. The practical result of this Proclamation is to bar the Australians described above from participating in the life of the country. This result is achieved through -

- (a) a broad prohibition from carrying out any business or agreement with or on behalf of Australians who are also denied the ability to go to law and through
- (b) the sequestration of all their property and industrial or business concerns in Egypt.

Australians do not have the use of their sequestered property and sequestrators are commissioned to act on behalf of these persons and to manage their property. Sequestrators are given very broad powers including inter alia the ability to go to law and if properly authorized the ability to dispose of the sequestered property. Leases with Australian nationals may be terminated and Australian employees may be dismissed without further notice. For all practical purposes Australians falling under the above proclamation cannot stay in Egypt.

3. This legislation does not provide for the internment of Australian nationals or for their registration at the Police station. This is not necessary since they would have to report to the Police every time they would wish their residence visa extended. The relevant proclamations do not provide either for any restriction of movement, though it is not impossible that the Police may have intimated to Australian nationals that they should restrict their movements to certain areas. We have received no complaint of such action.

SECRET



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

- 2 -

INWARD SAVINGRAM.

1.7245/6.

4. We have been unable to ascertain as yet either from the sequestrator, or from the Foreign Ministry, the exact number of Australians affected by this legislation. Four cases have been brought to our attention - Reverend Tyler, Messrs Collins, Pritchard and Deboro. All these persons have left Egypt and we have experienced serious difficulties in our enquiries about their interests. The sequestrator of Australian property has not replied to our letters relating to these four individuals.

5. Since only certain classes of Australians fall under Proclamation 5B it cannot be assumed, as the Australian Government seems to have done, that the number of Australians subject to sequestration would be identical with the number of Australians still remaining in Egypt. As we have received no complaints about discrimination against any Australians in Egypt it would seem that the nine or ten Australian nationals remaining have not been made subject to Proclamation 5B.

6. We have also been unable to ascertain the total value of private and commercial sequestrated Australian assets. We entertain some doubt that the Egyptians themselves would know it accurately. Mr. Salah Hassen of the Australian Desk in the Foreign Ministry has promised to give us the relevant information but we doubt if we will get it for some time.

7. In addition to the Queensland Insurance and the Sarkissian we know that the Tom Piper Company's shipment of canned meat from Melbourne, Australia, was sequestrated.

8. We were given an assurance by Mr. Hassen that no general restrictions are placed on the entry and exit of Australian citizens in Egypt. He stated that all cases are individually considered on their merits and that tourist and business visas might be issued. We know of one Australian national who has been issued entry and residence visas since last November.

9. The information which is forwarded to us from Canberra is often insufficient to take all the action which might be possible. It would be helpful if the Australians would send us as full information as possible when requests are made concerning their nationals or on the properties or businesses of their nationals who have now left Egypt. The information which we have is incomplete and the apparent inactivity of the Sequestrator does not facilitate the task. On problems relating to the protection of nationals all our letters to the Sequestrator have remained unanswered. Our letters of last week have been returned unopened with the request that all letters now be routed through the Foreign Ministry. This course of action is not entirely satisfactory as the Foreign Ministry Officials concerned seem to be completely unaware of what is going on with regard to sequestration and related problems.

10. The relevant proclamations were sent to Canberra under cover of our transmittal slip of 12th April.

11. We regret the delay in replying to your telegram under reference but in view of religious holidays it was not possible to get in touch with the officials earlier.

SECRET



SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD SAVINGRAM.**

I.7245/6.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. MIN. & DEPT. TRADE(C). 27th May, 1957.  
TREAS. & TREASURY

SECRET

SECRET



CABLEGRAM.

RESTRICTED

AS/MS

O.2660/61

Sent: 20th February, 1957.  
1645

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A.82. RESTRICTED.

Your telegrams 31 and 55.

Australian interests in Egypt: Admission of Greeks.  
We share the view of Canadian External Affairs Department that proposed attachment of an Australian Immigration official to Canadian Embassy at Cairo is quite unreal.

2. There are, however, other questions apart from the question of availability of staff at the Canadian Embassy:-

(a) Sources and facilities which are essential to full migration screening do not exist in Egypt.

(b) Existing general policy rules, aiming at keeping migrant intake within programme approved by Government and applying irrespective of country of residence, prevent acceptance of new applications except where nominees are the dependent relatives of residents of Australia or single women under 35.

Canadians and Greek Ambassador might be advised of above and of action already agreed to, which can be summarized as follows:-

A. Form 40 applications already held Cairo:

- (i) if completely processed, visas may be issued
- (ii) if processing incomplete, and nominees are dependent relatives of residents of Australia, Immigration prepared consider waiving further processing
- (iii) other cases where processing incomplete cannot be dealt with unless nominees move to a country where screening possible.

NOTE See also paragraphs 5 and 7 of our 238 of 19th December, to which we await reply and also our No. 8 of 7th January.

B. Form 40 applications lodged since closure Australian Legation or in future:

- (i) if nominees resident Egypt, Immigration prepared consider waiving screening if nominees are spouses or dependent

RESTRICTED



CABLEGRAM.

- page 2 -

RESTRICTED

O. 2560/61

children of residents of Australia.

- (ii) if nominees reach another country and are dependent relatives (including e.g. aged parents) of residents of Australia or single women under 35, applications are accepted and passed to Australian post in country concerned for screening.

You may of course confirm <sup>to</sup> Canadian authorities that we shall do everything possible to avoid throwing further additional work on Canadian staff. All decisions here to date have been based on assumption practically no screening at all possible (see paragraph 7 of my 238 of 19th December).

The 550 Greeks being flown to Australia by Council of Churches are principally Greeks from Greece not Egypt. Understood here that 110 are Greeks who had been in Egypt holding visas already issued and awaiting transport. They would not be part of group now referred to by Greek Ambassador.

Greek Legation, Canberra, has also made representations and is being advised along above lines.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIG.  
P.M.'s.

(COST 243.0.0.)

21st February, 1957.

RESTRICTED



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

CONFIDENTIAL



HP:SH

I. 2194

Dated: 7th February, 1957  
2028  
Rec'd: 8th February, 1957  
14.30

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A

45. CONFIDENTIAL

Robinson (Middle East Division) informed us today that Norman Robertson has reported Trevelyan (United Kingdom Ambassador to Egypt) informed him that consideration was being given to resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt. The Canadian Ambassador, Cairo reports on the basis of information from a probably reliable source that the Egyptian Government unlikely to be opposed to resumption of diplomatic relations within a matter of a few months. No immediate action is likely but the Canadian understanding is that consideration is being given by both parties to early resumption. They would be glad if you would take care to conceal the source of this information should you wish to pursue enquiries in London or elsewhere.

2. Robinson enquired whether Australia had given any consideration to the resumption of diplomatic relations.

MIN & DEPT EA  
P.M.'s

8th February, 1957

*file*



Folio No./s 24/25

FOLIO TRANSFER SLIP

Folio No. 24/25 has been transferred to File No. 58/1742  
Folios No. have

26/27

K.M.E.  
11257



RESTRICTED (23)

SH.MMc

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

I.17789/92

**CABLEGRAM.**

Dated: 18th December 1956  
1916  
Rec'd: 19th December 1956  
1400

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
O T T A W A.



267. RESTRICTED.

Australian nationals in Egypt.

Your 225. Following is text of telegram dated 14th December from Canadian Embassy Cairo regarding Mrs. Hazel Brown. Begins -

"Ten days ago we received word that (Mrs Hazel Merron Brown) an Australian citizen (passport A54045 issued at London 17th January 1955) enroute to Beirut from Singapore had been stranded on a Yugoslav cargo ship in the Suez Canal since the beginning of the crisis. From the Egyptian authorities we requested a transit visa for Mrs. Brown and offered to send an officer from our Embassy to accompany her to Cairo. After some delay the Egyptian authorities politely refused to permit us to enter this military zone and brought her to Cairo themselves on 11th December. Mrs. Brown seemed well despite the tediousness of life on board the ship and reported she was treated courteously by the Egyptian officers who escorted her to Cairo. The Yugoslav Embassy apparently secured the release of their nationals who were passengers on the ship on 3rd December. We learned of Mrs. Brown's plight through a German passenger who had herself managed to secure permission to leave. We gave Mrs. Brown assistance required and arranged for her to leave Saturday afternoon by plane for Beirut where she has friends. Our Beirut Mission was advised of her arrival. We were on the point of despatching this when your telegram 11th December arrived."

Ends.

*61216*  
2. Your 208. Following is text of two telegrams dated 17th December from Cairo.

First begins -

"After enquiries in Alexandria we learned that Stenbeck had left two weeks ago with his mother. They were apparently told to leave but it is not clear whether they received a normal expulsion order. We understand Foote left for Australia in April and that Pitcher went by ship to Aden on 31st October enroute to London. Still no news from Russel who was believed to be in Port Said at the end of October. Cullen and Collins were not on the Australian Legation list of Australians in Egypt handed to us on November 9th. Contact was established with Cullen only after a friend of his called to say he was in Egypt and now destitute due to departure of most of his clients. We later saw Mr. Cullen who stated that he would prefer not to be

RESTRICTED

*file*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, 17789/92

**CABLEGRAM.**

repatriated to Australia where he has no one to care for him. Would Canberra please advise whether some financial assistance can be extended. Cullen is an old man and his needs certainly seem genuine. We are continuing our enquiries about Collins. If Canberra has his address please ask them to forward it. We do not know of a Mrs. Young. There was however a Miss E.W. Young, a missionary, who left on our chartered plane on November 25th. Mrs. McAulay, Miss O'Donohue, and the Kantopoulos have told us they intend to stay and indicated they have had no difficulty up to now with the Egyptian authorities. We have reported separately on Mrs. Brown and Mr. Sarkissian."

Ends.

Second begins -

"On December 12th Mr. Sarkissian, an Australian citizen of Armenian origin, received an expulsion order from the Ministry of the Interior. (Wording of the order may be of interest: "In view of the present circumstances the Minister of the Interior advises you to leave the country at the earliest possible moment".) Sarkissian had told us in November that although he intended to migrate to Australia eventually, he wished to remain in Egypt for the time being. He now hopes that because he is of Armenian origin and has friends in the Government, the expulsion order will be dropped. Should the order stand however, he wishes to know whether we might be able to intervene on his behalf.

If the Australian Government think that we should make representations on Sarkissian's behalf we should be glad to do so but the disappointing response to our own representations in the case of Metzger leaves little hope that the Egyptians will change their decision about Sarkissian".

Ends.

3. The Embassy has also referred to immigration application received from Vincenzo Garcia (F 201/4/14) and wife Lidia. Accommodation and screening complete except for security check interrupted by crisis. Garcia sold his property and is now out of work. Cannot get screening completed in Europe due to impossibility of getting transit visa. International Catholic Migrant Loan Fund will finance trip from Egypt to Australia direct only. Applicants urgently request visas on compassionate grounds.

MIN. & DEPT. E.A. (1520/62/1)  
MIN. & DEPT. IMMIG.  
P.M.'s.

19th December, 1956.

RESTRICTED





901.

FOR THE PRESS

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

PR 125.

30th November, 1956.

AUSTRALIANS IN EGYPT

The Acting Minister for External Affairs, Sir Philip McBride, announced today that news had been received from the Canadian Embassy in Cairo, which is representing Australian interests in Egypt, of the departure from Egypt over the past three days of eleven Australian citizens. These were now either in the United Kingdom or in Italy.

Sir Philip McBride added that so far as could at present be ascertained there were between ten and fifteen Australians still in Egypt. Some of these have stated that they propose to stay.

Investigations into the reported arrest and maltreatment of the Rev. W. R. Tyler are being made.

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(19)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

HMC:HP

O.16666  
Sent: 4th December, 1956.  
1740

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
L O N D O N.

2883. CONFIDENTIAL.

For External.

Grateful if you could ascertain urgently from Australians evacuated from Egypt, in addition to Tylor, particulars of treatment accorded to them while in Egypt prior to and at point of departure and indicate how the treatment compared with that accorded British and French nationals. We understand that five members of Egypt General Mission, one member of Church Missionary Society, Price (Manager of Barclay's Bank) and McGavin (Anglo-Egyptian Oil Fields Ltd), all Australians, were evacuated to London.



Min. & Dept. E.A.(1520/62)  
P.M.'s.

Cost - £8.6.8.

5th December, 1956.

*file*

**CONFIDENTIAL**



CONFIDENTIAL

18

## CABLEGRAM.

DMC:ABK.

I.16488.

Dated: 27th November, 1956.  
1856.

FROM:

Rec'd: 28th November, 1956.  
1400.Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.253. CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.Australians in Egypt.

The Canadian Embassy in a message dated 26th November reports 10 Australians left Cairo for Rome apparently that day on a special Italian Aircraft (which had transported extra staff and equipment to the Canadian Embassy).

Report speaks of "unbelievable confusion which detained departure for over one hour", and "fine comb Customs inspection of all departing passengers except the Canadians. Other passengers were French and British. The name of the Australians are being sought from Cairo. External Affairs has also received report from the Canadian High Commission in London about press publicity there regarding alleged severe handling of Reverend Tyler "an Australian Suez Canal Company Padre". "Daily Telegraph" report also alleges "the Canadian Authorities got him past the Egyptian Immigration Officials by main force". External Affairs has not received any confirmation of this report from Cairo but it has sent full text and asked for comment.

Canada House is asking that Canadian Embassy Cairo keep it informed so that Australia House may handle enquiries in London regarding treatment of Australians and may take plans for Australians evacuated to London.

There have been no reports regarding treatment of Australians in Cairo for over a week. As soon as press reports were seen of House arrest conditions imposed on British and French citizens and later of the Egyptian proposal to expel these people, the Canadian Authorities were asked to send a special enquiry to their Embassy. No reply has yet been received presumably because the small Embassy Staff has been completely preoccupied with the actual handling of the situation in Cairo. Arrival of extra staff and equipment should help this situation.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

28th November, 1956.

file

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

RESTRICTED (h)

I. 16487

RP:OA.

Sent: 27th November 1956.  
2030.

FROM:

Recd: 28th November 1956.  
1330



Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

3252. RESTRICTED.

PRIORITY.

From External.

Australians in Egypt.

The Egyptian expulsion order may affect the Australian Community which we understand numbered about 25. Of these two Reverend Tyler and Price (Barclay's Bank), have already arrived here by air and are being looked after by their employers and friends. So far we have no information about how many of the remainder are coming nor whether they will need any assistance. Canadian Authorities are making enquiries.

2. We assume we should assist further arrivals, if necessary, and shall cable details of individual cases to seek your authority for financial help, should this be required.

-----  
A/MIN & DEPT. E.A.  
F.M'S.

28th November, 1956.

*file*



CONFIDENTIAL (K)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OA::HF

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

Sent: 28th November, 1956.  
1125

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.



208. RESTRICTED. IMMEDIATE.

Our 205. Please endeavour expedite reply.

2. Rome has advised that following Australians have been evacuated there from Cairo:- Reid, Price, Williams and wife, Taffs, Miss Young, Quick, Nunn, Tyler.

3. According to our Cairo Legation's last list (which Canadians hold) there would now appear to be following Australians still in Egypt or about whom we have no news: Sarkissian, Mrs. Young, McAulay, Bingham, O'Donohue, Foote, Pitcher, McGavin, Kantopoule, Stenbeck, Russell, Cullen, Collins. In addition following have married or are related to Egyptians: Bicham, Moharran, Richman, Effat.

4. Any information about the people listed in paragraph 3 would be appreciated.

Cost : £12.3.4.

A/MIN & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M'S.

28th November, 1956.

CONFIDENTIAL



RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

0.15611

DE/EH

Sent: 15th November, 1956.  
1635

TO:

ALL POSTS.

Excir 4. RESTRICTED.

Egypt.

On 6th November Egypt severed diplomatic relations with Australia.

2. Canada will represent Australian interests in Egypt until further notice.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'S.

(Cost £25.3.4.)

16th November, 1956.

RESTRICTED





CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

1.15789

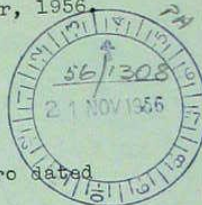
HP:HP

Dated: 16th November, 1956.  
1838

FROM:

Rec'd: 17th November, 1956.  
4.15 p.m.

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.



223. CONFIDENTIAL.

Following further message received from Cairo dated  
15th November.

(Begins)

"Before they will arrange for exit visas for Australian Nationals wishing to leave, the Foreign Office requires written confirmation from us that Egyptian Nationals in Australia are free to leave the country or to stay and also enjoy personal freedom of movement. Could such confirmation be obtained from Canberra as quickly as possible please?

Saw D.L. Price today. He said he was never arrested and has had no trouble. He will be one of the first to go after Egyptian Government gives us the green light".

(Ends).

A/Min. & Dept. External Affairs.  
P.M.'s.

17th November, 1956.

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

I. 15636.

Vi:OL.

Sent: 14th November, 1956.  
1702.

FROM:

Recd: 15th November, 1956.  
1050

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.



220.

CONFIDENTIAL.

IMMEDIATE.

Following message dated 10th November was received this morning in Ottawa from the Canadian Embassy Cairo.

Begins -

"The Australian Minister and Staff accompanied by Roquet left Cairo by train early this morning for the Libyan Border where they are due on Sunday morning. From Libya the Australians will use transportation facilities presumably by air laid on by the United Kingdom Government for their own people who left Cairo on same train. If Rome is on the itinerary the Australians will get off there and they would like their Embassy informed of their possible arrival. Please advise Canberra also that no Nationals other than Government Officials of the three countries were allowed to leave on today's special train".

Ends.

2. Roquet is a member of the Canadian Diplomatic Staff in Cairo.

3. Have cabled Rome regarding the last sentence in paragraph 1.

4. You will have heard that the matter of protection of Australian interests was discussed informally in New York yesterday by Mr. Casey and Mr. Pearson and reference was made to the practical difficulties confronting the small Canadian Staff in Cairo. Officials here however appear to regard the whole matter as settled for the time being subject to possible review in a week or two in the light of the ability of the Canadian Staff to cope with the responsibilities.

A/MIN & DEPT. E.A.  
F.M'S.

15th November, 1956.

CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

UNCLASSIFIED

DD:VA

Amended Copy.

I. 14961

Sent: 5th November, 1956

Rec'd: 6th November, 1956  
0830

FROM:

Australian Consulate-General,  
ATHENS.



x  
144. UNCLASSIFIED.

From External from Cliffe.

Following message from Cairo lodged on 3rd  
November.

"Inform Canberra, Legation is still functioning  
and staff are well."

... Cutler

x amendment.

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
IMMIGRATION  
P.M's.

6th November, 1956.

*file*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**



AS

I.15436

Dated: 11th November, 1956  
2300

FROM:

Rec'd: 12th November, 1956  
1135

Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations,  
LONDON.

22. UNCLASSIFIED. IMMEDIATE.

Following is text of telegram from Mr. Murray,  
A.H.F.Q., to Foreign Office, PA/370, 11th November, repeated for in-  
formation to Canberra.

Begins...

"Message received from Her Majesty's Consul-  
General, Benghazi, states that Her Majesty's  
Ambassador, Cairo, and Staff and the Austral-  
ian Minister and Staff arrived safely on Libyan  
soil.

....Ends.

A/MIN&DEPT EA  
A/MIN&DEPT TRADE (C)  
(MR. MCCLINTOCK)  
P.M.'S

12th November, 1956



10

CONFIDENTIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
INWARD CABLEGRAM.



AS

I.15282

Dated: 9th November, 1956  
1305  
Rec'd: 10th November, 1956

FROM:

Australian High Commission,  
LONDON.

3068. CONFIDENTIAL. EMERGENCY.

From External.

Have just been informed by the Foreign Office that Cutler, Cook, Fogg and Walker are being evacuated from Cairo tonight with the British and French Embassy Party. They will proceed by train to Libya whence a special air lift has been arranged to bring them on to Paris and London, arriving here in groups probably Sunday and Monday.

2. The Foreign Office have asked whether these arrangements are satisfactory. They say it would be difficult to make any special provision for our people. After consultation with McCarthy I have told the Foreign Office that though we had no indication of your, or Cutler's wishes, we feel bound to concur.

---

A/MIN&DEPT EA  
A/MIN&DEPT TRADE (C) (MR. MCLINTOCK) 10th November, 1956  
C

CONFIDENTIAL



RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

BH:SHA

Dated: 8th November, 1956.  
1415

TO:

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

181.

RESTRICTED.

EMERGENCY

Your telegram 208.



In confirmation of what Stuart said by telephone we gratefully accept Canadian offer to take immediate charge of our interests, and agree arrangements should proceed in accordance with terms of message to Cutler. We do not think it necessary at this stage to make an approach to Washington regarding United States assistance for transport for evacuation. We hope Cutler can make decisions regarding evacuation means with Canadian Embassy locally.

2. We believe task of looking after our interests should not prove particularly onerous, and would hope to avoid transfer of protecting duties from Canada to another country later. This can be examined in light of situation in a few weeks time.

3. Please convey this to Canadian authorities with a formal expression of our appreciation for their assistance.

Cost 313

A/MIN. & DEPT. P.A.  
A/MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C)(Mr. McClintock)  
P.M.'s

8th November, 1956.

*file*

RESTRICTED





840.

(8)

FOR THE PRESS

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

PR 117.

8th November, 1956.

AUSTRALIAN INTERESTS IN EGYPTCanada to act as Protecting Power

The Acting Minister for External Affairs, Sir Philip McBride, has announced that, at the request of the Australian Government, Canada has agreed to act as protecting power in respect of Australian interests in Egypt.

The Canadian Embassy in Cairo will assist the Australian Minister, Mr. A. R. Cutler, V.C., and his Australian staff to leave Egypt as soon as the Egyptian Government has provided facilities for this, and will take over custody of the Australian Legation properties. The Canadian Embassy will also, as far as international law allows, accord protection to those Australian citizens who still remain in Egypt.

Sir Philip McBride expressed his appreciation of this generous response by the Canadian Government to the Australian request.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
**OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.**

MCD:SHA

0.15087.

Dated: 8th November, 1956.  
1220

TO:

ALL POSTS

EXCIR.2

UNCLASSIFIED.

At Australian Government's request Canadian Government has agreed that Canadian Embassy at Cairo will assume protection of Australia interests in Egypt.



Cost 323/1/-

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
A/MIN. & DEPT. TRADE (C)(Mr. McLintock)  
P.M.'s

8th November, 1956.

*file*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

WM:SHA

0.15041.

Dated: 7th November, 1956.  
1800

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.

264.

UNCLASSIFIED.

EMERGENCY.

Your telegram regarding rupture of relations received. Will telegraph full instructions and name of protecting power as soon as necessary arrangements completed.

Cost 32/5/-

A/MIN. & DEPT. E.A.  
P.M.'s

8th November, 1956.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

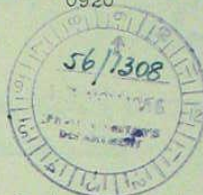
OUTWARD CABLEGRAM.

DLB:HP

Sent: 8th November, 1956.  
0.15072  
0920

TO:

Australian Legation,  
CAIRO.



265. UNCLASSIFIED. EMERGENCY.

Canadian Government has agreed to undertake immediate protection of Australian interests in Egypt. Please inform Egyptian authorities. Detailed instructions already sent to you through the Canadian Embassy. Grateful for early advice of your travel arrangements.

-----

A/Min. & Dept. External Affairs.  
" " " " Trade(C.) (Mr. McLintock)  
P.M.'s.

Cost - £3.15.0.

8th November, 1956.

*file*



RESTRICTED 4

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

AS:SHA

I.15175.

FROM:

Dated: 7th November, 1956.  
1952  
Recd.: 8th November, 1956.  
1600

Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.

211. RESTRICTED. IMMEDIATE.

Protection of Australian Interests in Egypt.

My 208.



Following Stuart's indication that the offer of immediate Canadian assistance should be accepted and that decision on long-term protection should be deferred, I informed the Canadian authorities and arranged for despatch by them "most immediate" of cable to Cutler. The Canadians asked for amendment in the second paragraph, adding a new second sentence "It has agreed to act on a temporary basis, pending more permanent arrangement". I accepted this change. The word "initially" was inserted as agreed with Stuart in the last sentence.

2. The Canadians have prepared an accompanying message for their Embassy, Cairo, informing their staff of the decision emphasising that the arrangement may only be temporary and requesting them to carry out the necessary functions.

3. The Canadians have found the transport arrangements provided by the United States Government for the evacuation of nations from the Middle East particularly efficient. They were anxious that, as part of the exercise of their temporary functions on behalf of Australia, they should do everything possible to ensure that if Australian staff required travel assistance, the Canadian representatives in Cairo and Washington should make use of whatever co-operation the American authorities could give in respect of the Australian Legation staff and Australian nationals in Egypt. They would hope that if we did wish to avail ourselves of any opportunities for travel out of Egypt, which the United States Government may be able to provide, the Australian Embassy in Washington would seek such assistance from the State Department.

4. I am told opinion in Cabinet was solidly in favour of doing everything possible to help us. There is concern at the official level about the burden on their small and inexperienced staff and the risk of a failure by Canada to do the task effectively. There is no doubt whatever, however, that they will do it if you wish them to undertake the long-term responsibility, having special reasons (for example, the Commonwealth connections) for preferring them to the traditional protectors.

A/MIN. &amp; DEPT. E.A.

A/MIN. &amp; DEPT. TRADE (C)(Mr. McClintock)

P.M.'s

8th November, 1956.

file



RESTRICTED

## INWARD CABLEGRAM.

OA:AS

I.15142

Dated: 7th November, 1956  
1450

FROM:

Rec'd: 8th November, 1956  
0805Australian High Commission,  
OTTAWA.208. RESTRICTED. EMERGENCY.

From Pyman.

Reference phone conversations with Stuart regarding request to Canadian Government to act as protecting power, I have been advised:-

- (A) Canadian Government very willing to give immediate assistance to Australian staff and office in Cairo until more definite arrangement can be made. In reply to my query as to exactly what this covered, I was informed that the Canadian authorities would be prepared to instruct the Canadian Embassy, Cairo, to undertake all immediate practical arrangements connected with the closure of our mission and outlined in the draft message you wish the Canadian Government to send through their Embassy to Cutler. It was also mentioned that the Canadian Embassy would be told to assist in any way possible with the evacuation of the Australian staff, if you so desired. They are relying entirely on United States' assistance in this regard and would be happy to take up the matter in Washington and Cairo, presumably simultaneously with an approach by our Embassy in Washington.
- (B) Regarding long-term protection of Australian interests, Canadian Cabinet this morning decided that due to shortage of staff and lack of experience, it would be advisable for the Australian Government to consider asking a Government with a more experienced staff with greater resources to undertake the long-term protective function (for example the Swiss or Swedes). If, however, after such consideration, the Australian Government still desired Canada to act, the Canadian Government would be happy to do so to the best of its ability.

2.

My assessment is:-

- (A) Canadian Embassy has a very real staff problem as described to Stuart on the phone.
- (B) They are prepared to send extra staff, and feel that another officer or two may well be needed if they assume this function.
- (C) There is the greatest possible willingness to assist us and their hesitation comes only from their concern that they might let us down if the duties of protector proved

RESTRICTED

*file  
Australia-Egypt  
Relations*



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS **RESTRICTED**  
**INWARD CABLEGRAM.**

-2- I.15142

heavier than might be imagined.

3. I have advised them that there are apparently about 30 persons involved in the Australian community according to recent news reports.

4. The Minister has been informed and has concurred in action taken here.

5. I am endeavouring to 'phone substance of this message through but atmospheric conditions are delaying call.

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A/MIN&DEPT EA  
A/MIN&DEPT TRADE (C) (MR. MCLINTOCK)  
P.M'S

8th November, 1956

**RESTRICTED**